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# FROM THE EDITOR

I moved to Polk County in 2008, and have been consistently delighted with all the county offers, from the small-town hardware stores that carry that obscure house-cleaning product that grandma used to use — which works better than anything else ever could — to the fields of grass, corn or red clover, the orchards of hazelnuts, apples and pears, the wineries and beer.

When you're in Polk County, you're treated like family; walking into a restaurant filled with locals doesn't feel strange, it feels like home.

Our evening scene is picking up — you're not going to find a rave, but you will almost certainly find live music, trivia competitions and good company in any given town on any given night.

Polk County has miles of magnificent roads and trails suited for bicycling, country drives or hiking and running, depending on what you prefer. Our weather varies, but is generally mild enough that you can bike, hike and run year-round with a little planning.

What is particularly fun for the Polk County

Explorer is all the stops you can discover along the way if you look. While driving through lush farmland, you may find a fruit stand, still based on the honor system for payment.

You may discover a winery with doors open, ready to let you try before you buy.

Walking the streets of one of our many quaint downtowns, you may find the best pizza you've ever eaten.

We have prized (by locals) restaurants that look like holes in the wall, serving food and drinks that make your tastebuds sing.

Our downtown shops make the phrase "buy local" easy, because that's all they sell. Farmers markets thrive all summer with fresh produce, cheeses, breads, wines and crafts. Local restaurants use those fresh, locally grown goodies to build their menus.

If you decide to make Polk County your home, like I have, you will discover even more about the generosity of the people here, the communities that are somehow tight-knit and welcoming at once. The resources in Polk County are incredible, from the Oregon State University Master

Gardeners to the Experimental Aircraft Association at the Independence Airpark to the New Horizons Orchestra. Opportunities for people of all ages and interests abound in Polk County to learn a new hobby or perfect an old interest.

Take a day — or three — and explore our home. Then plan to come back and see some more; we'll be happy to have you.

— Emily Mentzer  
Editor



## explore Polk County 2018

### EDITORIAL

**Emily Mentzer**

Editor | [ementzer@polkio.com](mailto:ementzer@polkio.com)

**Jolene Guzman**

Writer | [jguzman@polkio.com](mailto:jguzman@polkio.com)

**Jennifer Halley**

Writer | [jhalley@polkio.com](mailto:jhalley@polkio.com)

### CREATIVE

**Kathy Huggins**

Production Artist | [khuggins@polkio.com](mailto:khuggins@polkio.com)

**Seaton Drebitko**

Production Artist | [sdrebitko@eaglemedialab.com](mailto:sdrebitko@eaglemedialab.com)

**Andy Taylor**

Production Director | [ataylor@eaglemedialab.com](mailto:ataylor@eaglemedialab.com)

### ADVERTISING

**Margaux Alexander**

Sales Manager | [malexander@polkio.com](mailto:malexander@polkio.com)

**Erin Davidson**

Sales Representative | [edavidson@polkio.com](mailto:edavidson@polkio.com)

**Stacey Sphoon**

Sales Representative | [ssphoon@polkio.com](mailto:ssphoon@polkio.com)

If you would miss this issue, you can find more at the Dallas Area Visitors Center, Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce, and the Polk County Itemizer-Observer. Explore Polk County is copyrighted by Eagle Media Inc.





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# recreation







# Bird watcher's paradise

BASKETT SLOUGH IS HOME TO MORE THAN 200 AVIAN SPECIES

Looking to escape the ordinary, Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge should be near the top of your list.

**T**here is a place where you can see the natural history of an entire region — a place where you can go to get a break from everyday life and enter a haven for nature.

Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge, off Highway 22, offers visitors a unique experience — even when compared to Polk County's numerous wildlife viewing spots.

The refuge was originally established in 1965 to provide winter habitat for dusky Canada goose.

Over the years, various restoration projects on the 2,492 acres of the refuge have allowed Baskett Slough to show off the natural history of the Willamette Valley. Photography is encouraged, and chances are you'll see a number of awe-inspiring spots along your trek.

Pets, jogging, biking, hunting and fishing are prohibited, but the hiking trails, which range in

distance from less than a mile to 3-miles long, provide plenty of spots to take in breathtaking views — but Baskett Slough offers much more than pretty scenery.

Baskett can be a bird watcher's paradise.

More than 200 species of birds make a home at the refuge for the winter, nesting or migration stopovers, including songbirds, raptors, shorebirds and waterfowl.

Wildlife lovers can also seek out 30 species of mammals, eight species of amphibians and 10 species of reptiles.

Included are 10 different federally listed threatened and endangered species of plants and wildlife — including Fender's Blue Butterfly — a species thought to be extinct until the 1980s.

The Refuge is part of the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, and includes William L. Finley and Ankeny national wildlife refuges.



## More than 200 species of birds make a home at the refuge for the winter

If you're a bird watcher looking for a haven for your next outing, an outdoors lover wanting a place that offers a variety of plants and animals, or just someone looking to escape the ordinary, Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge should be near the top of your list.



### Baskett Slough

**What:** Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge.

**Where:** Located off Highway 22, turn on Smithfield Road. From Highway 99W, 2 miles north of the Highway 22 intersection, turn west onto Coville Road and continue along a gravel road for about a mile. You'll reach a parking lot, small informational kiosk, bathroom and a trailhead after about a mile.

**Of note:** Officials host a number of birding hikes and environmental informational activities at the refuge throughout the year.

**For more information:** 503-623-2749; [www.fws.gov/WillametteValley/baskett/](http://www.fws.gov/WillametteValley/baskett/).





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# World-class free-ride

BLACK ROCK OFFERS SOMETHING FOR ALL SKILL LEVELS



**“You could become an expert just by riding the trail system there.”**

**Gary Weaverli**  
Trail Manager, BRMBA

**T**he moments when you’re flying through the air or completing a tight corner can be electrifying. Black Rock Mountain Bike Area, located near Falls City, offers cyclists a thrill ride.

Nearly 10 miles of trails are populated by ramps, elevated bridges and other features — all maintained by the volunteer organization Black Rock Mountain Bike Association.

Riders from around the world flock to the free-ride trails. Free-riding is a more aggressive subset of mountain biking that focuses on downhill rides, jumps and maneuvering through and over obstacles.

“There’s nothing like this around the Pacific Northwest,” trail manager Gary Weaverli said. “None of the other trails are like Black Rock. They’re more tuned for cross-country style riding, where you sit and pedal up and down the mountain. At Black Rock, you jump down the

mountain.”

BRMBA is world-renowned as one of the best spots to free ride. The International Mountain Bike Association added BRMBA to its Epic Trail Program in 2010 — a distinction given to trails based on quality of design, organization behind

**BRMBA is world-renown as one of the best spots to free ride.**

projects, and cooperation with public agencies.

“Black Rock is awesome,” Cody Farnes said, a mountain biker who frequents Black Rock. “It feels like a mountain bike playground. There’s a great variety of downhill trails for all skill levels.”

BRMBA has partnered with the Oregon





Department of Forestry since about 2002. Black Rock was a destination for dirt bikes during the 1980s until ODF closed it to motor vehicles. In 2002, a trio of people approached the ODF about building a sanctioned free-ride trail.

From there, Black Rock has blossomed — all thanks to dedicated volunteers.

The association holds maintenance days throughout the year to add, repair and maintain trail features.

“These are people who are passionate about the sport,” Weaverli said. “We care about the sport, the mountain and the environment. We think about when designing trails how it might erode, how it is going to treat the rider, and how to make it fun and exciting while still being safe.”

Whether you’re a seasoned veteran or hopping on a mountain bike for the first time, Black Rock can be your gateway to adventure.

BRMBA has a “Basic Training” section aimed at beginning riders to get them used to some of the course features they’ll encounter on more advanced trails.

“You can just come out and play,” Weaverli said. “You don’t have to hike up 3 miles to the top. You can do small laps and do one or two little jumps and get experience really quick.”

Trails get more advanced from there.

“You can go there and progress from a person who doesn’t really ride a bike, and you could

become an expert just by riding the trail system there,” Weaverli said.

Just as important as the quality of the trails is the community you become a part of. Weaverli said making new, lifelong friends is a common occurrence.

“Our slogan, if you will, is to build, ride and respect,” Weaverli said. “We like to build trails, ride the trails, and respect the trails.”



## Black Rock

**Where:** From Dallas, head southwest to Highway 223 and continue for 5 miles. Turn right onto Falls City Road and drive 4 miles into Falls City. Once in Falls City, travel west through downtown and bear right before the bridge onto Mitchell Street. Drive up a short hill, turn left onto a dirt road and follow the river for 3 miles until you reach the Tapawingo Camp sign. Turn right here, cross a bridge, and park at an area next to the main gate. Do not drive past the gate, even if it is open.

**Cost:** Free and open to the public year-round.

**For more information:** Visit the Black Rock Mountain Biking Association’s website at [www.brmba.org](http://www.brmba.org).





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# A lush wilderness of plants

LUCKIAMUTE STATE NATURAL AREA HOLDS EASY NATURE TRAILS



**“The river’s going to go where it wants to.”**

**Gail Oberst**  
*President, Luckiamute Watershed Council*

**O**n the border of Polk and Benton counties lies 315-square miles of lush wilderness, a riparian dreamscape in the making. Here, the Luckiamute River carves a new path, fighting to get to the Willamette, taking river bank and gravel roads with it.

“The river’s going to go where it wants to,” said Gail Oberst, president of the Luckiamute Watershed Council. “This part of the river has been eroding for a long time. We’re trying to let it meander. It’s a sign of a healthy river.”

On a clear April morning, Oberst and Suzanne Teller, council outreach coordinator, took 23 people out for a hike through the Luckiamute State Natural Area collecting birds.

Collecting birds is a hobby of birdwatchers, or birders, that involves keeping track of what birds they identify either by sight or by the bird’s song. That list can be a lifetime list — how many birds

you’ve identified in your life — or an annual list — how many birds you identify in one year’s time.

Joel Geier, local bird expert and Audubon ornithologist, stopped at a bend in the river.

“I’m going to try and wake a screech owl,” he told the group as he imitated the predatory bird.

While an owl was not roused from his slumber, other birds were pretty anxious to hear this nocturnal nest-robber’s song hours after the sun had risen.

A hummingbird that moved too fast to be identified as a Rufus or an Anna zoomed over to check out the group. Both hummingbirds make their home in Oregon year-round. Other birds answered Geier’s call, which announced the birdwatchers’ arrival into the area.

From the north trailhead parking lot to where the roughly 2-mile loop begins, an man-made forest of cottonwood and ash trees lines the right, casting shade along the trail. Most of the





trail is protected by canopy, making it a pleasant walk even on a warm, sunny day.

Where the trail begins, a red-breasted sapsucker makes its home.

He fusses at the large group of people in his territory, while the people watch him through binoculars and camera lenses, fascinated by his brightly colored head.

This is a good spot to see sapsuckers, Geier

said. In fact, the red-breasted variety is one of the most sought-after birds in the region — at least for birdwatchers. For farmers and gardeners, the sapsucker can be a pest, killing off a tree, branch by branch.

Later, in the Forest Gallery, Geier said all of Oregon's native woodpeckers can be spotted with regularity, except for the acorn woodpecker, who hasn't yet discovered the old oaks of the Luckiamute area.

All along the walk, hikers are greeted by native shrubs, flowers and trees. Most have been planted by volunteers, working to repair the habitat to its natural state. Others have a history of growing in the area long before the settlers came.

Purple camas is one of those.

Oberst said the Native Americans used to eat the bulb of the purple camas — but one must exercise caution because the white variety of camas is poisonous.

"Native Americans used to mark the white ones — or pull them out — because you harvest the bulb after the flower is gone," Oberst said.

When birdwatching, it is important to look throughout the area, as birds can be found at various levels, choosing to nest on the ground, in shrubs or in the tops of trees.

A white-crown sparrow hops along the tall grasses. Watchers crane their necks to see an orange crown warbler flit from tree to tree. In the Gallery Forest, a brown creeper hops up on an old cottonwood. A northern roughwing swallow zooms around the riverbank where it has built its nest, while a redtail hawk circles lazily in the sky.

The Luckiamute State Natural Area is alive with birdsongs, butterflies and beauty. The north trailhead loop generally takes about an hour, but if looking closely for birds or examining the local flora, it can take three or four hours.

Additional trails connect with the loop, one taking hikers to the confluence of three rivers, where the Santiam and Luckiamute enter the Willamette. Other trails have canoe access or give hikers a chance to explore the forest deeper.

Bring sunscreen and a brimmed hat, pack a lunch, and happy exploring.



## Check It Out

**Where:** Luckiamute State Natural Area is located at the southeastern edge of Polk County, bordered by Buena Vista Road and the Willamette River. To reach the north tract trailhead coming from Independence, turn left onto Crocker Road and keep left until you reach a parking area. The paddlers' access parking lot is located just north of the Crocker Road intersection on the west side of Buena Vista Road. The south tract trail is located on the east side of Buena Vista Road just north of the junction with Northwest Springhill Drive.

**For more information:** Call the Luckiamute Watershed Council at 503-837-0237 or visit [www.luckiamutelwc.org](http://www.luckiamutelwc.org).



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# Dallas dog whisperer

OAKHAVEN LABRADORS' JIM DAVIS HAS A WAY WITH CANINES

"We have customers literally from all over the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Chechnya, Russia, Canada."

**Jim Davis**  
*Owner, Oakhaven Labradors*

**W**hen Jim Davis speaks, it's soft, making you lean in a little to make sure you catch everything he is saying.

That mannerism is a direct reflection of what he does every day: training dogs.

Davis runs a training facility in Dallas, called Oakhaven Labradors, where they offer obedience and retriever training for all types of dogs.

He opened the original facility in 2003, and two weeks ago, opened up a newer, bigger facility, to allow for room to grow.

"I didn't know initially that we would quite broaden our scope this much," Davis said. "The other place was a good little business, not quite half as big as this."

With the new facility, Davis and his two employees will offer boarding and grooming services on top of training.

The obedience training given at Oakhaven is based off of Davis's personal beliefs that he has formulated over his years of dog training, owning dogs, and watching and learning from other dog trainers.

"I firmly believe dogs are pack animals. Period," Davis said. "And they're genetically ingrained on how to respond to an alpha dog or an alpha person. So a lot of my training is based on what would an alpha dog do. So it's posture, my type of voice, etc."

The tools he uses to train a dog, whether it be voice commands, non-verbal commands, or pointing his finger at a dog's neck when it has been disobedient, all emulate that pack environment a dog needs to be well-balanced.

"It's a nice, simple, non-rocket science way to go," he said. "Why reinvent the wheel?"

His training program is not your typical dog-training; it's eight weeks long, with encour-





aged visits from the owners periodically. And during that two-month stint, Davis works closely with the dog — and its humans — to make sure the alpha-beta relationship is established.

"We train a dog to obedience on and off leash," Davis said. "We train it to voice commands and non-verbal commands; it's a little more intense than strapping a collar on a dog and telling it to sit. We expect a dog to be able to sit 20 to 30 minutes, by command, until I address it to do something else. Or to lie down or to heel nicely. If I come to a stop I want them to sit without my saying. It's more than just on-leash obedience."

At the end of the training course, Davis says he has the dog's humans come back in so the three of them can work together to make sure the transition from Oakhaven to home is easier.

Davis has customers come requesting his help from all over the place.

"We have customers literally from all over the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Chechnya, Russia, Canada. We have an incredible loyal group of people," he said.

Growing up, Davis said he loved dogs and was always interested in dog training, but couldn't find the time during his 30-year career with Safeway.

"A year after I retired I got my first dog," he said.

Eighteen years later, he's owned a number of dogs and trained hundreds more.

Currently, they have a little over a dozen dogs in training.

"We will soon take, up to 60 dogs," he said.

Davis and his wife, Joy, are still finishing up work on the building, such as putting gates on all 60 kennels, expansion for the backyard play area, and maybe one day, a veterinarian clinic upstairs.



## Dallas Dog Whisperer

**What:** Oakhaven Labradors

**Where:** 1090 James Howe Road, Dallas, 97338.

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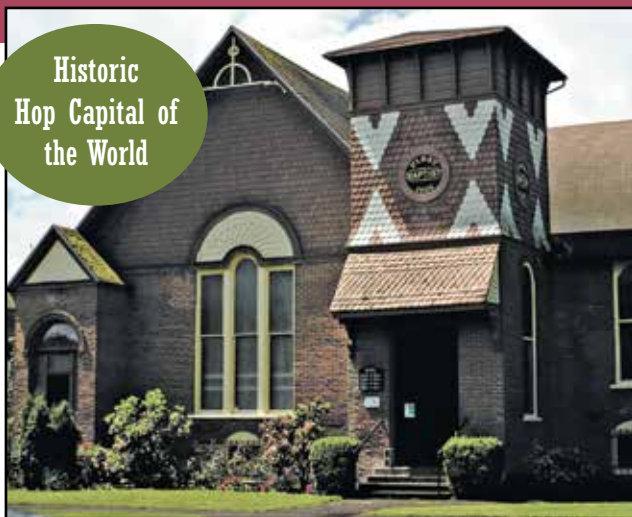
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# Discover a slice of history

FORT YAMHILL IS A LESSON ABOUT MILITARY, NATIVE RELATIONS



“This is a park in progress.”

**Matt Huerter**  
Park Ranger, Fort Yamhill

Only one of the 24 buildings that once stood at Fort Yamhill remains, but it reveals a bit of what life was like when the military outpost was in operation from 1856-1866.

Those stationed there, particularly the officers, left plenty of clues behind that recent archaeological digs uncovered.

Some of those objects, military or domestic, are shown in window displays of an officer's home at what is now Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area in Grand Ronde.

FYSHA opened in 2006 with the purpose of retelling the story of the fort and its role in the region's history in the mid-1800s.

About 70 enlisted men and officers were stationed at the fort, which was built to protect — and monitor — Native Americans living on the Grand Ronde Reservation.

The six officers' quarters at the top of the hill, painted bright white, and a fortified block house down the hill from the homes, painted dark black, could be seen for miles around. They symbolized U.S. military authority in the region to both settlers and native people.

Park Ranger Matt Huerter said development at the park is ongoing.

“This is a park in progress, and archaeology is helping us come up with plans to develop the park and influence the stories we tell,” Huerter

said. “Through archaeology, we have been able to determine exactly where most of the buildings were and how big they were.”

Surprising artifacts have been found in recent years — some indicating the presence of women and children in the officers' quarters. Before that, the only women known to live at the fort were laundresses.

Visitors can walk the half-mile interpretative trail at the park to see where buildings once stood and read about living conditions at the fort and the famous soldiers who lived there. The trail was built in cooperation with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Visitors have access to a picnic area and multiple spots along the trail with expansive views of the surrounding area.

Huerter said that's yet another reason to visit the park.

“The beauty,” he said. “It is very scenic.”



## History lesson

**What:** Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area.

**Where:** 9390 Hebo Road (Highway 22), Grand Ronde.

**Hours:** Year-round day use park.

**For more information:** 503-879-5814, or go to [www.oregonstateparks.org](http://www.oregonstateparks.org).





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# Worth the drive

## VALLEY OF THE GIANTS HOME OF ANCIENT FORESTS



### Valley of the Giants

**What:** A hike amongst centuries-old massive Douglas fir trees.

**For more information:** For directions to the Valley of the Giants, call the Salem BLM office at 503-375-5657.

**T**he centuries-old Douglas-fir trees that stand in the grove named the Valley of Giants are humbling. They tower over the human guests who venture into their isolated area, reminding visitors how small they really are.

The Valley of the Giants is on 47 acres, and is designated as an Outstanding Natural Area by the Bureau of Land Management in 1976.

A trail meanders through the trees, designated as moderate difficulty.

The real difficulty is finding the place to begin with.

Part of it is timing.

"In the summer, it gets a little dicier because they're actively logging," said Kimber Townsend, Monmouth resident, who regularly schedules group hikes to Valley of the Giants. "You have to get to that sweet spot where they're logging, but they haven't closed for fire danger yet."

Townsend leads an annual New Year's Day hike to the forest, and says a chainsaw is recommended to get past any trees that have fallen across the road.

The trip is about 22 miles on graveled, windy roads, and the drive takes about 90 minutes. The log trucks — more familiar with the route — don't drive slowly.

"We always have a car in front that has a CB radio that can monitor CB traffic, so if a truck is coming, they pull over and everyone else knows to tuck in behind them, because they know a truck's coming," Townsend said. "They (truckers) don't slow down — it's your job to get out of their way."

Another reason the trail is difficult to find is the road goes through a quarry.

"If you come from the south, you have to get through the quarry, and if they're actively blasting, they'll have that closed, so you have to





go through Falls City," Townsend said.

When fire danger gets too high, roads to the Valley of the Giants close.

"There's two gates," Townsend said. "If you get past the second gate, you're cheering because that was the last one."

Lastly, people who live in the area and cherish the pristine beauty of the VOG remove any traces of directions to the trailhead.

"I think the folks who are local and have grown up here don't want to see this become a typical tourist park and get damaged and vandalized," Townsend said. "BLM has put markers in that say, 'VOG.' They usually last a week or two — a month at best."

Global positioning systems don't work well, either, because GPS signals are lost in the area.

"It's very difficult to find because people deliberately erase the trail," Townsend said.

But once you find the parking lot and make

your way into the valley, it's worth it.

"These giant, old trees, you put your hand on that tree and think about the hundreds of years that tree has stood in that spot, and what has passed under their branches," Townsend said. "So you get that feeling of time. When you pass

**The trail is an organic one — maintained, but not pristinely so.**

through this enormous tree, it's like a heart in the forest."

The trail is an organic one — maintained, but not pristinely so.

"They aren't sending up a parks and rec crew to clear the trail every year," Townsend

said. "That doesn't happen. So when trees fall over the years, the trail just naturally modifies to accommodate the tree. People maneuver around it."

Or over it, as the case may be.

"There's one stretch where you're literally on it. There's a big tree that's fallen, and a little sign with a guy walking that says, yes, this is actually the trail. So you step on the roots and walk the length of the tree until you get to the other side of the trail. It is the coolest thing."

Plan for a whole day, and pack a lunch. A picnic table near the Valsetz River makes for a nice resting spot before making your way back up the hill to the parking area.

While the trail is not long, Townsend said it is physically demanding.

"It's really steep, and if the footing is wet or muddy, there are some sections you're literally controlling your slide down," she said.



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# From farm to hunters haven

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Chuck Cates  
LVP

**W**hen they were young, Chuck and Kendall Cates could almost always be found hunting around their family’s property near Pedee.

To the southwest of the homestead sat hundreds of acres of foothills flocked in ash, maple and cottonwood trees. The Little Luckiamute River cuts through lush bottom land.

Hundreds of acres of foothills and the Little Luckiamute River provided countless scenic spots to explore, search and hunt.

The brothers hiked every nook and cranny of the property in search of the grouse, pheasants and quail that were once naturally common here.

It’s of little surprise that, in 2006, the brothers turned their family’s land into a hunting preserve. Luckiamute Valley Pheasants (LVP) draws clients of all ages from across Oregon, Washing-

ton and beyond.

“The history has a bit to do with keeping the old family farm viable,” Chuck said. “When you are too small to be a viable commercial farm, you need to do something.”

The brothers transformed a 315-acre parcel in southern Polk County in the Pedee area into an upland hunting preserve that they manage and stock with ringneck pheasants and the wilder Manchurian ringnecks.

“What the preserve does, more than anything else, is take advantage of the recreational aspects of a farming and forestry operation,” Chuck said.

All birds are raised on site — a personal touch that allows hunters to have the most enjoyable experience possible.

“We are not in the pheasant business, we are in the entertainment business,” Chuck said. “That is an important distinction. Our objective



is to have a hunt that is as close as possible to a wild bird hunt, so we want birds that fly well and behave more like wild birds. That has led us to several things that make the raising more expensive, but produce a stronger and somewhat wilder bird.”

LVP hosts a number of events, including North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association tests, the Northwest English Springer Spaniel Club training day/open house and a Northwest Ladies Hunting Camp.

In 2016, 641 hunters came to LVP, Chuck said. That number doesn't include nonhunting family members who also came.

“The history has a bit to do with keeping the old family farm viable.”

**Chuck Cates**

*Owner, Luckiamute Valley Pheasants*

What makes LVP so attractive?

It gives hunters something that is rare — a personal experience. The natural beauty only adds to it and makes LVP a must-see spot for hunters.

“We don't do half-day hunts, so the experience is more relaxed and unhurried,” Chuck said. “Most also like our family friendly atmosphere and the relaxed experience. One other thing we do that most preserves don't, is to allow single person hunts.

“Just you and your dog. We do have some scheduling constraints for those hunts, but we understand the special relationship between an upland hunter and her dog.”



## Hunter's Haven

**What:** Luckiamute Valley Pheasants, a day-use hunting preserve.

**Where:** 17115 Maple Grove Road, Monmouth (Pedee).

**What you need:** An Oregon Hunter's License or a Private Preserve Hunting License, gear and an orange vest and hat. LVP has hunting dogs that assist in the hunt.

**Price:** \$220 per hunter. There is an additional \$50 per hunter charge if you do not have your own dog.

Hunting without a dog is not allowed. A guide will assist with your first hunt free of charge.

**Of note:** There are no provided meals or accommodations. You may hunt with either an Oregon hunting license or a private hunting permit.

**For more information:** 503-838-4221; [www.lvpheasants.com](http://www.lvpheasants.com).







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# communities







# A walk down memory lane

DALLAS HISTORY FULL OF NOTABLE CHARACTERS

Incorporated in 1874,  
Dallas grew into a town  
centered on timber.

**T**he late — and somewhat infamous — Dallas citizen Fritz Meyer said Bat Masterson, an old west lawman and gambler who was friends with Wyatt Earp, used to stay in the Lovelady House in Dallas.

Of course, Meyer owned the famed house at the time, and was known to stretch the truth some, said Dallas Historian Sue Rohde.

“I would call him one of the more modern characters in Dallas history,” Rohde said of Meyer. “I think that he might have been responsible for some of the urban legends with Lovelady House, like that Bat Masterson used to stay there. But he didn’t of course.”

Meyer died in 2003 as he was restoring the Victorian home board-by-board. He is just one of a cast of characters running through Dallas’ history that Rohde affectionately recalls.

William C. Brown is another. Brown, who

arrived in Dallas 1847, was a general store owner, but more famous for his annual widows’ banquet held on his birthday.

The Dallas Observer described the party and its host in its Dec. 1, 1908, issue: “Eighty-four years old and looking hale enough to live to see one hundred, Hon. W. C. Brown, the ‘Uncle Bill’ who has come to be regarded all over Oregon, as a sort of an incarnation of Santa Claus, celebrated his birthday at the Dallas Hotel yesterday afternoon, with his famous annual banquet to the widows of the city; a banquet that has come to be regarded as one of the biggest events of the year in Dallas and whose fame has spread abroad until it is viewed with an almost equal amount of interest by residents of neighboring cities.”

Then, there are the Stafrin sisters, Ruby and Ida, the daughters of Stafrin Drug Store owner Conrad Stafrin. They were the town’s first ambu-



lance drivers.

Rohde said Dallas has had three Polk County courthouses, and the fate of the second one was the topic of speculation when it burned to the ground in 1898.

"Some believe it was kind of on purpose because there was a lot of talk amongst the people by then that they didn't like the structure. It looked more like a southern mansion or something other than what they thought it should look like," Rohde said. "Added to this general discussion the fact that when the courthouse burned down, the county clerk Eugene Hayter just happened to have the typewriter borrowed for the night."

It was the only typewriter in town at the time.

In 1900, the historic part of the current courthouse opened.

Wagon trains began arriving in the area in 1843. Eventually, the settlement of Cynthian developed and was later changed to Dallas, in honor of George M. Dallas, the vice president to James K. Polk.

Dallas was incorporated in 1874, and grew into a town centered around its timber mills. The Gerlinger family with H.L. Pittock and F.W. Leadbetter formed Willamette Valley Lumber Company in 1906, and the mill continued under one name or another until 2009.

The cast of characters have certainly

changed, but Dallas remains essentially a small town with a strong sense of community, Rohde said.

You will see that on display in Dallas' sense of volunteerism, and its community festivals, including Freedomfest on July Fourth and Summerfest in late July.

Rohde said her father, Delbert Hunter, wrote an autobiography of his "small town stories" of Dallas. That was where her love of the town and its history began.

"My dad, being born and raised in Dallas, always had a love for the community and talked a lot about his growing up and the different businesses at the time," Rohde said. "It's fun to go back through, because when he's talking about himself and what is going on during the time period, he also talks about businesses or other people."

"Dallas remains essentially a small town with a strong sense of community"

Sue Rohde  
Dallas Historian



## Welcome to Dallas

**Population:** 15,345.

**Elevation:** 325 feet above sea level.

**City Hall:** 187 SE Court St., 503-623-2338, [www.ci.dallas.or.us](http://www.ci.dallas.or.us).

**Visitor Services:** Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce/Dallas Area Visitors Center, 119 SW Court St., 503-623-2564.

**Schools:** Dallas School District — Lyle Elementary School (K-3), Oakdale Heights Elementary School (K-3), Whitworth Elementary School (4-5), LaCreole Middle School (6-8), Dallas High School (9-12), Morrison Campus (alternative high school).

**Parks:** The city of Dallas has eight community parks and a trail system:

**Dallas City Park** — Dallas City Park is the largest park in the city at 35 acres. The "new" entrance is located on Levens Street near Lyle Elementary. The "old" entrance near the Delbert Hunter Arboretum is on Academy Street. The park has facilities for gatherings large and small, including two shelters, two fireplaces, numerous barbecue pits, horse-shoe pits, basketball hoops, a disc golf course and paved trails.

**Roger Jordan Community Park** — Located next to the Dallas Aquatic Center on South-

east LaCreole Drive. It consists of soccer fields, a baseball field, a skate park, two tennis courts and a picnic area.

**Birch Park** — Intersection of Birch and Stump streets. New playground equipment recently was added, and the park also has two basketball hoops.

**Gala Park** — Intersection of Uglov Avenue and Hankel Street. It features a basketball court, playground and a grassy area with a gazebo.

**Kingsborough Park** — 101 SW Wyatt St. It features lots of wide-open spaces as well as two basketball hoops, walking paths and a playground. Restrooms are open during the summer.

**Rotary Park** — 300 NE Fern Ave. The city has joined forces with the Dallas Rotary Club to upgrade the park with new playground equipment, walking paths and a basketball court.

**Walnut Park** — 501 SE Walnut Ave. It is a small wooded area with a shaded creek and a bench.

**Central Park** — 920 SE Juniper St. behind the aquatic center. It is the city's newest park and the only off-leash park for dogs. It has an enclosed area with a picnic table, water and mutt-mitt stations.

**Rickreall Creek Trail** — The Rickreall Creek Trail will eventually run the length of the city east to west following the course of its namesake creek. It has rapidly taken shape in recent years, with new sections added each summer.

## Three must-do activities in Dallas:

**1 — Pressed Coffee And Wine:** The local "hot spot" in downtown always has something going on, from live music to comedy nights. Then, of course, there is the coffee roasted on site and an outstanding selection of local wine and beer.

**2 — Bounty Of The Season:** Check out the Polk County Bounty Market, Dallas' weekly farmers market, open May through September, for the freshest and tastiest berries, breads and veggies.

**3 — Rickreall Creek Trail System:** The trail follows Rickreall Creek, flowing through the middle of the city. While not yet finished — the goal is to have the system span the city east to west — the completed sections offer beautiful views.



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# Small town, big heart

FALLS CITY OFFERS VIEWS, COMMUNITY AND CHARM



“There’s a shared sense of community and ownership.”

Jeremy Gordon  
Falls City Mayor

Falls City Mayor Jeremy Gordon has only lived in the town for a few years, but he’s completely in love with Polk County’s smallest city.

Gordon and his wife, Dana Schowalter, lived in Milwaukee, Wis., before she got an assistant professor post at Western Oregon University and he took a position with the University of Wisconsin that allowed him to work remotely.

People have asked why they wanted to move from a big city to a tiny town.

Gordon’s response: “Look around. It’s gorgeous. Come on.”

He said his first experience with Falls City’s culture was soon after his family moved into a house on Dayton Street — coincidentally known as the mayor’s house — and noticed a man in his yard eating figs off his tree.

“I thought, well I better go introduce myself. He (the man) introduced himself and said, ‘I’ve

been eating figs off this tree for about 30 years.’” Gordon said. “I was like ‘Wow.’ There’s a shared sense of community and ownership in a way.”

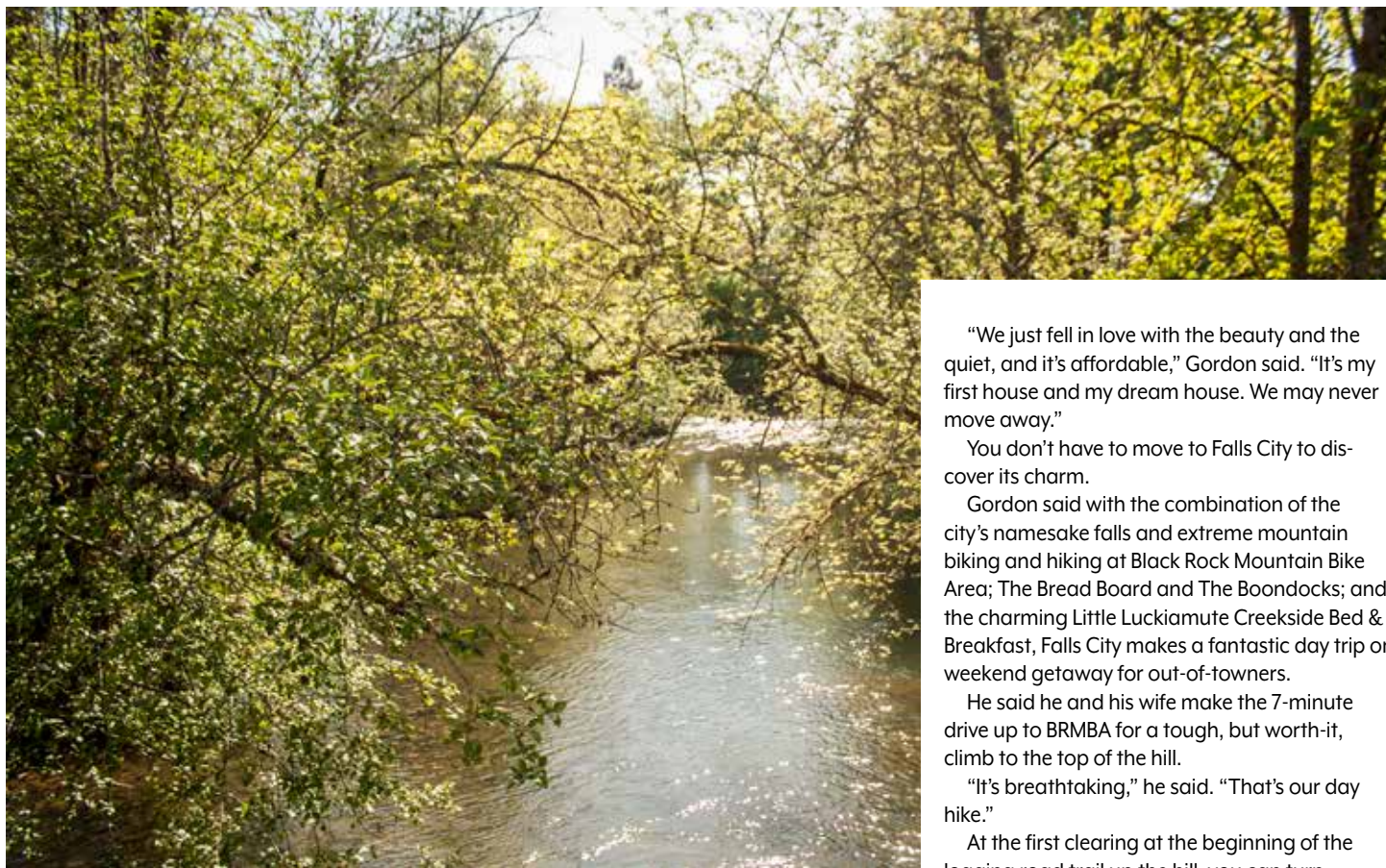
Take a tour around town with Gordon and you will see just how much he’s taken to the town and it to him.

During a stop at the Bread Board, an artisan bakery on North Main Street, Gordon recalls how reassuring the owners John Volkmann and Keith Zinn were for him and his wife on their first visit, just a few weeks after moving to town. They were experiencing some doubts, but Zinn piled food on their table, and Gordon had a realization.

“Somehow, with this deliciousness in my mouth, I thought we’re going to be OK here,” he said.

They’re more than OK. Gordon got involved in the community, and last year, was appointed mayor.





"We just fell in love with the beauty and the quiet, and it's affordable," Gordon said. "It's my first house and my dream house. We may never move away."

You don't have to move to Falls City to discover its charm.

Gordon said with the combination of the city's namesake falls and extreme mountain biking and hiking at Black Rock Mountain Bike Area; The Bread Board and The Boondocks; and the charming Little Luckiamute Creekside Bed & Breakfast, Falls City makes a fantastic day trip or weekend getaway for out-of-towners.

He said he and his wife make the 7-minute drive up to BRMBA for a tough, but worth-it, climb to the top of the hill.

"It's breathtaking," he said. "That's our day hike."

At the first clearing at the beginning of the logging road trail up the hill, you can turn around for an incredible view of the hills surrounding Falls City.

While taking in the sight, Gordon said: "Sometimes I have to stop and remind myself that I live here."



## Welcome to Falls City

**Population:** 960.

**Elevation:** 370 feet above sea level.

**City Hall:** 299 Mill St., 503-787-3631, [www.fallscityoregon.gov](http://www.fallscityoregon.gov).

**Schools:** Falls City School District — Falls City Elementary School (K-8), Falls City High School (9-12).

**Parks:** The city of Falls City has three community parks:

**Michael Harding Memorial Park** — Michael Harding Memorial Park is on the south side of the Little Luckiamute River falls. It is named for a city clerk who was killed in an accident in 1976.

**George Kitchen Memorial Park** — George Kitchen Memorial Park, also known as Upper Park, is located just off Park Street. It has a large gazebo and access to electricity.

**Fay Wilson Memorial Park** — Fay Wilson Memorial Park runs alongside the Little Luckiamute River opposite City Hall. It is also known as Riverside Park and Lower Park.



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# Discover Native culture

MUSEUM OFFERS CLOSER LOOK AT TRIBES' HISTORY.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY DEAN RHODES



The name Chachalu means “the place of burnt timber”

**S**pirit Mountain Casino may be the unincorporated community of Grand Ronde’s — and the state’s — most popular tourist destination, but there’s plenty more to Grand Ronde than meets the eye.

Grand Ronde has a long and storied history. Tribal ancestors lived throughout the Willamette Valley, southern Oregon and the Oregon coast since time immemorial. They were moved to the Grand Ronde Reservation beginning in 1856 after ceding most of what is now western Oregon to the federal government in seven ratified treaties.

Federal recognition was taken away from the Tribe and it was terminated in 1954, but the Grand Ronde Tribe, through the work by Tribal members, friends and community allies, saw the tribe restored on Nov. 22, 1983.

Today, the tribe’s reservation and land hold-

ings total more than 12,000 acres.

The tribe’s story is on display in the Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center, 8720 Grand Ronde Road, which opened in 2014. The center features an exhibit detailing the tribe’s history and created an archive for cultural artifacts.

A second phase recently finished construction and the building now has a large, permanent exhibition display space, work rooms for curating public exhibits, artifact processing, special processing and freezer, long-term storage for cultural archives and work rooms for Tribal research.

The museum re-opened to the public on June 1.

The name Chachalu means “the place of burnt timber,” in honor of what members of the Tualatin-Kalapuya Tribe named a part of the Grand Ronde area that had been destroyed by a wildfire.





The museum's logo features a camas lily, a plant known for restoring itself after forest fires—a symbol for the tribe's restoration after being “burnt” through placement on the reservation and termination.

The tribe also hosts a number of unforgettable cultural events that are open to the public. Those include powwows in July and August, arts and crafts fairs at the casino and more.

In addition, 14 miles of public hiking trails on

Grand Ronde is also where you can find the 108-acre Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area.

the Grand Ronde Reservation and the popular Big Buck campground are maintained by the tribe and make the area perfect for those looking for an outdoor adventure. To use the campground, members of the public must obtain a pass at 503-879-2424.

Grand Ronde is also where you can find the 108-acre Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area, operated by Oregon State Parks. Fort Yamhill was a military outpost that was in operation

from 1856-66 and established to protect and control Native Americans on the Grand Ronde reservation.

Also, located in Grand Ronde is the world-class West Valley Veterans' Memorial dedicated to those from the West Valley area who have served their country. The four black granite pillars represent the major branches of the U.S. armed forces and have more than 2,300 names etched into them. The tribe holds an annual ceremony to honor West Valley veterans every Memorial Day.

Whether you're looking for a Las Vegas-style gaming experience, a trip to learn more about the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Native American history in Oregon, or to check out one of the many colorful cultural events, Grand Ronde offers a compelling mix of history and fun.



## Welcome to Grand Ronde

**Population:** 2,000 (estimated).

**Elevation:** 344 feet above sea level.

**Government Center:** 9615 Grand Ronde Rd

**Visitor Services:** Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, 1-800-422-0232. Hiking trail maps are available at the Tribe's Natural Resources Office, 47010 SW Hebo Road. Camping is permitted, but permits are required. Call 1-503-879-2424 for more information.

**For more information about the area:** Visit [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org)

## Must-do activities

**1 — Spirit Mountain Casino:** Catch a show or concert, have some fun at the poker tables or enjoy an exquisite meal from the Cedar Plank Buffet.

**2 — Competition Powwow:** Check out some of the best dancers from the Pacific Northwest and across North America in this three-day event hosted by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Aug. 17-19.

**3 — Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center:** Explore the history the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde at the museum's historical exhibit.





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# From Hops to Gigs

HISTORIC TOWN REINVENTS ITSELF

Most of the fun begins with Riverview Park, the town's "living room."

**T**he city of Independence began reinventing itself in the early 2000s, trying to turn what many saw as a rough-around-the-edges burg into something special.

It worked.

Stroll down Main Street on a summer weekend, and you'll see why this former river port is increasingly a draw for people in the Willamette Valley who want to get away without traveling too far.

A hotel is in development this year, expecting to open in May 2019, part of the Independence Landing project.

Most of the fun begins with Riverview Park, the town's "living room." The amphitheater, built in 2006, is packed with people for free movies and concerts all summer through the River's Edge series. On the Fourth of July, people pour into the park for arguably the best view of

fireworks to be found in the valley.

The efforts of the city and Independence Downtown Association to revitalize and rebrand the city can be seen by the lack of empty storefronts on Main Street.

There's something in the air in downtown Independence. From new businesses to those who are coming soon — evidenced by the brown paper in the windows — to the potential of development on the riverfront, Independence is booming.

Independence was founded in 1845 and incorporated in 1874. Historic architecture abounds in the downtown area, and local businesses and developers have worked hard to preserve it.

Take a walk through Melting Pot and shops on C Street to see the work done in the Cooper Block Building, for example. Or see how Young Realty has renovated their old building space.





The historic Foster's building has gotten a careful makeover, restoring failing brick work.

With so much history, it's a natural fit for stories to flow about the residents of these buildings in a rough-and-tumble river town. Each year, local resident and "parahistorian" Marilyn Morton leads willing guests on a Ghost Walk, spinning yarns about spectral sightings and activity.

The town offers two farmers markets each summer, a smashing Fourth of July party, concerts, movies, and the Hop and Heritage festival, this year reframed as a block party.

Independence has one of the highest percentages of Latinos in Oregon, and as such, features a number of Mexican restaurants and shops, as well as a vibrant and well-attended Community Fiesta.

The Independence State Airport and its adjacent airport neighborhood are among the notable features on the north side of town. This subdivision is a community of pilots. Streets are intermingled with runways.

Having the airport means antique aircraft fly-ins, hot air balloon launches, programs for would-be youth aircraft mechanics and pilots, including Young Eagles flights — and some amazing pancake breakfasts — all organized by one of the most active chapters of the Experimental Aircraft Association in the United States.

The city has become a favorable spot for cyclists and motorcycle enthusiasts. It's also a convenient launching point to the Luckiamute State Natural Area and the Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge to the south and southeast. In response to that, the city established a biker-boater campground right at Riverview Park.

From the early to mid-1900s, Independence was known as the Hop Capital of the World

The city has become  
a favorable spot for  
cyclists and motorcycle  
enthusiasts.

because of farms surrounding the city. That connection lives on through nearby Rogue Farms Micro Hopyard in Buena Vista and the annual Hop and Heritage block party.

Now, Independence is also known as a Gig City and has been heavily involved in ag technology, including a recent experiment using sensors to track the hop harvest from field to brewery in Newport.

Come explore Independence. You won't leave disappointed.



## Welcome to Independence

**Population:** 8,600.

**Elevation:** 180 feet above sea level.

**City Hall:** 555 S. Main St., 503-838-1212, [www.ci.independence.or.us](http://www.ci.independence.or.us).

**Visitor Services:** Monmouth-Independence

**Chamber of Commerce:** 355 Pacific Ave. N., Monmouth, 503-838-4268.

**Library:** 175 Monmouth St., 503-838-1811.

**Schools:** Central School District — Independence Elementary School (K-5), Talmadge Middle School (6-8), Central High School (9-12).

**Parks:** **Riverview Park** — Riverview Park is located downtown between B and C streets alongside the Willamette River. It's the city's largest park and features the Riverview Park Amphitheater, which hosts a summer movie and concert series. It also has a boat ramp, fountain and a large playground.

**John Pfaff Park** — John Pfaff Park originally was known as Northgate Park and is located at the intersection of Hoffman and Gun Club roads. It has a playground, basketball court and picnic tables.

**Mountain Fir Park** — Mountain Fir Park is located off F Street between Seventh and Ninth streets. The land was formerly part of the Mountain Fir Lumber Mill but was donated to the city when the mill downsized in the early 1990s. It has picnic tables and lots of open spaces. The city has partnered with the Luckiamute Watershed Council to restore the South Fork of Ash Creek, home to salmon and trout. Polk County OSU Master Gardeners maintain a demonstration garden here, called Inspiration Garden.

**Pioneer Park** — Pioneer Park is located at the corner of Seventh and C streets. It has picnic tables, a playground and lots of tall, mature trees.

**Dog Park** — Located on Grand Street, east of Highway 51, about a quarter mile north of downtown. It is the only off-leash park in Independence, and was built through volunteer efforts.

**Bicycle Boater Campground** — This basic camping area has five sites, each with a picnic table and bike rack.





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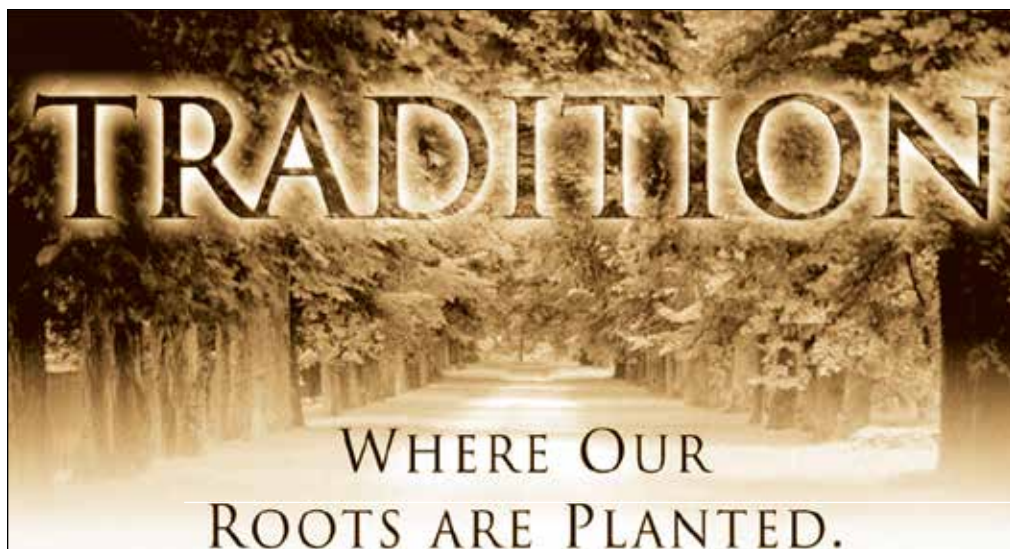
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# Small town bliss

MONMOUTH FEATURES CULTURE, CUISINE, COMMUNITY



Monmouth is situated on the TransAmerica Trail, frequented by cyclists traveling from coast to coast...

Most know Monmouth because of its 162-year bond with Western Oregon University, a major part of the community.

Random fact lovers are aware that it was the last dry town in Oregon — and one of the last in the Western United States — until 2002 when voters agreed to allow beer and wine. In 2010, Martinis for Monmouth was passed, and now the city not only has full-service bars and restaurants, but also touts four recreational and medical marijuana shops in town.

Take the time to turn off the beaten path of Highway 99W; Monmouth is a community both tranquil and vibrant.

Monmouth comes alive with an eclectic mix of rock, bluegrass and other genres during the summer Music in the Park series, sponsored by the Monmouth Business Association. Jazz permeates the community every August, when the prestigious Mel Brown Summer Jazz Workshop

comes to WOU.

Monmouth's park system is a source of pride. It features 10 pristinely manicured large and "pocket" parks. An amphitheater was recently completed in Main Street Park, along with new facilities and a recycling system for the splash fountain, which is a draw for kids — and their guardians — on hot summer days. At Madrona Park, the city continues to plant trees in the arboretum that surrounds a roughly half-mile paved trail.

Don't let the small-town charm fool you. Monmouth's downtown is home to some of the best pizza and Chinese food on offer. Sing Fey has an entire menu specially designed for foreign exchange students from China who are studying at WOU — they know if they want a true taste of home, they only have to walk to Sing Fey.

The town also boasts delicious espresso and





coffee shops, wine and tap houses, and quaint hardware and floral shops, not to mention pretty amazing retail spaces.

Monmouth is situated on the TransAmerica Trail, frequented by cyclists traveling from coast to coast, and is home to the only bike shop in the county. One of Monmouth's citizen committees acquired the grant funding to install two bike repair stations in town, and is in the process of establishing a biker campground at Gentle Woods Park, right on the TransAmerica Trail — Highway 99W. In that same neighborhood, if you look, you'll notice some strange residents: peafowl. The peacocks lose their splendid tail feathers each summer, and grow them back in spring for mating season. Roughly a dozen peafowl call their home in the Gentle Woods Park neighborhoods.

On the east end of Highway 99W, you'll find another unique neighborhood in Edwards

Addition, a collection of cottages, row houses, and craftsman-style homes with deep porches and village green. The developers of Edwards Addition reserved a couple of acres to create a neighborhood farm, where a pair of farmers contract to supply residents — and beyond — boxes of fresh produce throughout the growing season.

Monmouth benefits from its connection to WOU, which grows stronger through the work of a citizen committee. WOU is a comprehensive liberal arts school with about 6,200 students. Its local presence means Monmouth annually hosts a number of lectures, world-class music and dance performances, NCAA Division II sports, and a variety of student-coordinated events that are free and open to the public.



## Welcome to Monmouth

**Population:** 9,726.

**Elevation:** 214 feet above sea level.

**City Hall:** 151 Main St. W., 503-838-0722, [www.ci.monmouth.or.us](http://www.ci.monmouth.or.us).

**Visitor Services:** Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce, 355 Pacific Ave. N., Monmouth. 503-838-4268.

**Library:** 168 Ecols St. S., 503-838-1932.

**Schools:** Central School District — Ash Creek Elementary School (K-5), Monmouth Elementary School (K-5), Talmadge Middle School (Independence) (6-8), Central High School (Independence) (9-12).

**Parks:** Monmouth prides itself on its parks system, which features 10 pristinely-manicured large and “pocket” parks.

**Cherry Lane Park** — Cherry Lane Park is at Cherry Lane, Ackerman Street and Whiteman Street. It has a playground with benches.

**Gentle Woods Park** — Gentle Woods Park is at the intersection of Myrtle Drive, Olive Way and High Street. It is mostly wooded with a large picnic shelter, horseshoe pits, playground equipment and restrooms.

**Madrone Park** — Madrone Park is located along Madrone Street and Edwards Road. A half-mile paved walking trail was built in 2015, along with a network of graveled trails in the interior. The park has been the recipient of many new trees to create a young arboretum. It has a picnic shelter, basketball court, playground equipment and a large paved gathering area.

**Street Park** — Main Street Park is located in downtown Monmouth. It is one full city block and features a permanent amphitheater, gazebo, playground, picnic tables, pathways and a water fountain.

**Monmouth Recreational Park** — Monmouth Recreational Park is located off Hogan Road and west of the City Public Works Department headquarters. It has fields for softball and baseball, two tennis courts and restrooms.

**Winegar Park** — Winegar Park is located at Ecols Street and Suzanna Avenue. It has a basketball court, playground, benches and pathways.

**“Pocket Parks”** — Monmouth has four mini parks that are .67 acres or smaller. Southgate Park at Southgate Drive and Josephine Street has a basketball court, benches and a playground. La Mesa Park is east of Heffley Street and south of Bentley Street. It has a basketball court, benches and a playground. White-sell Park is at the western end of Catherine Court. It has a basketball court, benches and a playground. Marr Park is at Jackson Street and Marr Court. It has a playground, horseshoe pits and a small, landscaped garden.





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# More than just a university

## WOU OFFERS COMMUNITY CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LISA CATTO



There are numerous artist series and recitals, theater and dance productions throughout the year.

In rural Polk County, Western Oregon University (WOU) serves as a bustling academic and cultural center.

WOU, the oldest public university in Oregon, has traditionally been known as a leader in training teachers. The College of Education has earned numerous national awards and recognition. For the past couple of decades, WOU has flourished as a liberal arts institution with popular majors of business, criminal justice, and psychology.

WOU also hosts a satellite campus for Oregon Health and Science University's nursing program. The Research Institute has been a part of WOU since 1989 and leads research in education, human services and health.

The university offers the Western Tuition Choices, which provides two tuition options to save now or save later. The Tuition Promise lets students pay a bit more their first year, but it locks in that rate over the course of four years. The Traditional Plan will pay a bit less their first year, but the tuition rate grows each year.

WOU also provides a variety of programs to support first-generation and low-income students on their path to graduation like the Student Enrichment Program. For the past eight years, WOU has received annual recognition for outstanding advising from the National Academic Advising Association: The Global

Community for Academic Advising.

Beyond academics, WOU is a place for the community to enjoy art, culture, social, and athletic events. For the art lovers, there are numerous artist series and recitals by the music department, theater and dance productions throughout the year, and the Smith Fine Arts Series that brings well-known performers to Monmouth. There are rotating exhibits within the art galleries of Campbell Hall, Werner University Center, and Hamersly Library.

For the lifelong learners, there are several speakers series throughout the year sponsored by disciplines like social sciences and gerontology. There's also a Community Lecture Series hosted by the Center for Academic Innovation.

For the sports fan, there are National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II athletics events happening all year, along with tailgating before many of the games. WOU often hosts conference and regional championships for NCAA and the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. Plus there are games year-round for the various club sports teams like rugby and lacrosse.

WOU also hosts a variety of special events throughout the year. Campus events are listed at [WOU.edu](http://WOU.edu).



leisure







# A room with a river view

B&B OFFERS SMALL-TOWN GETAWAY

**“Let’s do a bed and breakfast. Nobody has done anything like that.”**

**David Radke**  
Owner, Little Luckiamute Creekside B&B

**W**hen David Radke first looked at the property at 246 S. Main St. in Falls City, he saw something most people wouldn’t: A bed and breakfast.

At the time, the home on the property — most of it built in 1907 with an addition in the back — looked like its best days were behind it.

“It had an old rickety front porch on it. No foundation. A one-car garage,” Radke recalled. “The back was worse than the 1907 part of it. It was scary horrible.”

Radke told the property owners Paul and Judy Ward his vision for the house and its Little Luckiamute River frontage, and they agreed to put up the financing to make it reality. The Wards, of Dallas, are longtime community members and friends of Radke and his wife, Cheryl.

“They are the greatest,” David said. “She was a teacher of mine years back, and I just think the

world of them.”

While he had a green light to get to work, Radke said he had one more person to convince that his dream would work: Cheryl.

“I said, ‘Let’s do a bed and breakfast. Nobody has done anything like that.’ You’ve got the mountain bike thing,” he said, referring to nearby Black Rock Mountain Bike Area. “We brainstormed a bit.”

What came out of their planning is Little Luckiamute Creekside Bed & Breakfast, a four-room bed and breakfast. It required a painstaking remodel of the existing house and an addition to accommodate guests.

The approximately 2,000-square feet of B&B includes one king bedroom, two queen bedrooms and a four-bed bunk room. Guests have shared access to a full kitchen, TV room and two bathrooms. Those staying at Little Luckiamute are treated to a beautiful view and the





soothing sounds of the namesake river flowing at the edge of the property.

The Radkes live in a separate part of the bed and breakfast and lease back to the Wards.

"We don't have a licensed kitchen yet, but there's always bagels. There's pancake mix. My wife stocks it with fruit, coffee."

David said Cheryl still has another few years before she retires from Oregon State University,

**"People just laugh at me when I say that I'm here to stay in Falls City. I'm here."**

**David Radke**  
*Owner, Little Luckiamute Creekside B&B*

so they aren't ready to plunge into cooking just yet.

"Believe it or not, we're getting calls," David said. "We just got our license."

To cater to the mountain bikers, there's hot and cold water on the outside so riders can clean the mud off their bikes — and themselves. One of the rooms has a bike theme in recognition of the popularity of the sport.

Another room has a nautical theme.

"Paul worked as a commercial fisherman for years, so we thought it would be fun," David said.

He said they may develop wine tours and a local horse owner is putting together a horse-back riding package to give guests more to do during their stay. David said he'd learn how to kayak the Little Luckiamute and would offer that service to guests, too.

David said Falls City residents have been welcoming and supportive of the venture — even giving the couple a round of applause when the city council approved the B&B's land use permit.

"There's great people in this town," David said.

He said having grown up in Dallas, the regional pecking order went like this: People in Salem would make fun of Dallas. Residents of Dallas would extend that courtesy to Falls City. Finally, Falls City, would look down upon the former town of Valsetz.

Now that he lives in Falls City, David said that was based on misconceptions.

"People just laugh at me when I say that I'm here to stay in Falls City. I'm here," David said. "They laugh, but you know what? The people are great."

Now, David and Cheryl hope they can repay the kindness they've received.



## Home away from home

**What:** Little Luckiamute Creekside Bed & Breakfast

**Where:** 246 S. Main St., Falls City

**Contact:** 503-539-7558, 541-979-3245 or

[www.littleluckiamutecreeksidebnb.com](http://www.littleluckiamutecreeksidebnb.com)

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**Where:** 957 Main St, Dallas, OR, 97338  
**For more information:** To get a feel for the place before even going in, check out [www.westvalleytaphouse.com](http://www.westvalleytaphouse.com)

**B**eer is more than hops. It's a community — and Polk County is smack dab in the middle of a beer lover's dream. Whether taking an up-close look at how beer is brewed or just wanting to sit back and enjoy a cold one, Polk County is your spot for any kind of beer activity you desire — from a variety of pubs and restaurants to Rogue Farms, a brewery in Independence with 52 acres of hops, as well as marionberries, pumpkin and cucumber fields.

Of course, where you decide to go for your beer will depend on what you're looking for. A kickback atmosphere? A raucous one? How 'bout a place with lots of beer and good food, too? The beer culture embodies something different depending on which experience you want, but at the end of the day, a beer lover only wants one thing: finding a beer to make the taste buds sing.

Featuring 65 beers, ciders, wines, and kombucha on tap, West Valley Taphouse takes pride in serving locally-sourced products. For the teetotaler, root beer and other crafted sodas also are available.

"We try to keep a selection from all over — everything's microbrew," owner Sam Dufner said. "We try to pride ourselves on the best stuff, harder to get stuff. And we're very picky." Choosing which brews to feature requires

Dufner to go out and taste as much beer as he can to find the ones that will best fit with the community at West Valley.

"I taste-test everything," he said. "I'll sample 20 beers for every one that I bring in." That's a lot of beer. "It's a hard job, but somebody's gotta do it," Dufner added, laughing.

The Taphouse, which is has been in Dallas for two and a half years, holds to a philosophy of keeping everything they serve, including food, as local as possible, Dufner said. The result is a regular clientele, a community of beer lovers who know they're getting the best when they sit down at the counter.

It's why Dufner goes local and features smaller breweries. "I can go to the brewery and try the beers and be selective," Dufner said. "The smaller breweries tend to put more emphasis on quality. I'm definitely a beer geek so I appreciate that."

The taps rotate often, but every March, customers get to vote on their favorite beer in a "March Madness" style competition. Whichever beers wins stays on tap for an entire year.

It's another way to get people involved — as if featuring delicious beer wasn't enough. "When people come in, it's a very social, open community," Dufner said. "They enjoy that nice environment, that nice beer."





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# A perfect pair

YEASTY BEASTY SPECIALIZES IN PIZZA AND BEER



## Keeping it local

**What:** Yeasty Beasty

**Where:** 167 Main St W, Monmouth, OR, 97361

**For more information:** visit their website, [www.yeastybeasty.com](http://www.yeastybeasty.com)

**D**on't wait too long to go in and try that beer you've been hearing about: The 26 taps at Yeasty Beasty rotate consistently.

Of course, there are the staples that stay on all the time, such as: Hop Venom from Boneyard, Dead Guy from Rogue, Tangerine Wheat of Lost Coast Brewery and Pacific Pineapple from 2 Towns Ciderhouse.

Jason Waggoner, manager of Yeasty Beasty, is in charge of which beers come on tap.

"I try and keep a couple hoppy singles, some hoppy doubles," Waggoner said, "and then at the same time I try to fill up with the New England styles, which are pretty popular right now, hazy beers, just a full spectrum of the IPA world in there, try to satisfy everyone's palates."

Going with smaller breweries has been a decision for Yeasty Beasty since they opened their doors, because "it really draws in people

from the area," Waggoner said. "We're a craft pizza place, so what goes better with craft pizza than craft beer?"

Having a variety of microbrews on tap helps to add to that beer community, and Waggoner says he sees it all the time at his counter.

**"What goes better with craft pizza than craft beer?"**

"Every time someone's sitting there, they'll talk about favorite beers. You see people who are really into craft beer who won't drink anything else — refuse. It's a lot of fun if you get into it."



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# Local brews for local folks

INDY'S BREW HAS VARIETY OF CHOICES



## Something for everyone

**What:** Brew Coffee and Taphouse

**Where:** 211 S Main St, Independence, OR, 97351

**For more information:** Visit their website to see their full beer and food menu: [www.brewcoffeeandtaphouse.com](http://www.brewcoffeeandtaphouse.com)

**A** relatively new business, Brew Coffee and Taphouse sits on the corner of Main Street in downtown Independence.

A small backyard patio behind the restaurant looks out to the Willamette River, where you can sit during the sunny months, sampling different beers.

The restaurant offers 12 rotating taps, manager Heather Jones said, and tries to offer something for everyone — IPA, double IPAs, a porter or stout, and then lighter beers, like a pilsner or hefeweizen, as well as a seasonal beer and a couple ciders.

"We try not to have anything on for too long. We like to mix it up, so everyone gets a variety," Jones said. Staying local is the name of the game for Brew.

"We do venture into California and Washington, but we do try to get as much as we can

in Oregon," Jones said. "There are so many breweries around here, supporting locally is an important factor for us."

Their food and coffee, even their merchandise, are all local, too, which helps to create a culture — customers can feel confident knowing what they eat and drink was chosen with care.

"If we hear a recommendation from a customer, we look into it. If they come in and love a specific beer, we try to bring it in," Jones said. Otherwise, they visit breweries around the area, and collaborate with their reps on which beers to feature.

The community in Brew is mixed, Jones said. She has customers who come in only wanting Coors Light, or those who come in with only a taste for wine. But there are always the beer lovers who come in with a palate for undertones and really get into it, she said.





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# Take a tasting journey

DISCOVER POLK COUNTY'S WINE

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**T**he only thing you need to know about wine is whether or not you like it. When you go wine tasting for the first time, swirl it, smell it, taste it and decide. One of the beauties of the wine industry is how unpretentious our wine makers and wine owners are. You don't have to know anything about wine — how the weather affects grapes, how they are harvested, what kind of yeast is used — to go wine tasting in Polk County. All you have to do is tip the glass toward your face and decide if you like it or not.

Wine makers — who you often get to meet at tasting rooms — or winery owners or tasting room managers are happy to tell you as much as you want to know about their offerings. But it's more than education: they're happy to see you discover their wines and find one you really love.

Oregon grows amazing pinot noir, made

semi-famous by the movie, “Sideways,” that came out in 2004. In the film, Paul Giamatti talks about how delicate the pinot noir grape is. For wine makers in Polk County, it's a blessing and a curse.

The blessing is that pinot noir can taste different, have a different mouth feel and a variety of surprising and pleasant flavors pop through, depending on the year and location of the grapes themselves. Some grapes are constantly exposed to the sun, wind and rain, while other lots are more protected. The truth is, pinot noir, like other red wine grapes, produce a better fruit when life is not easy. Vines planted in deep top soil are not going to give as good a fruit as those planted in rocky soil under more stressful conditions for the plant.

Pinot noir grows well in Oregon, which is one reason it is a favorite of local wine makers. But they do not stop there. They play with white





varietals and purchase or trade for merlots and tempranillo and Marchall Foch to make some deep reds. These deeper red wine grapes grow readily in Washington and central Oregon in the Rogue Valley.

Many white varietals also thrive in Polk County, including Riesling, chardonnay, and Gewurztraminer, in addition to pinot gris and pinot blanc.

Wine makers have taken these white grapes and made them into lovely sparkling varieties,

**Pinot noir grows well in Oregon, which is one reason it is a favorite of local wine makers.**

some in the old tradition of Champagne, but unable to label it as such because these grapes were not grown in the Champagne region of France.

More than 30 wineries make Polk County their home. Many have tasting rooms open throughout the summer or by appointment, while a couple dozen stay open for tastings year-round.

Aside from organized art and wine walks,

locals have an amazing opportunity in their backyard. Oregon's wine industry is old enough to produce world-class wines, but young enough to not charge an arm and a leg for tastings—unlike what has happened in Napa Valley.

In fact, many of our wineries are associated with a passport program. There are two: one for the Willamette Valley Wine Trail, consisting of seven wineries, and one for more Benton County wines, but including Namaste, Airlie and Emerson wineries.

Passports do not cost much, generally \$25, and offer the holder of said passport free wine tastings at a number of wineries — which generally run \$10 at each winery. Tastings at all seven of the wineries that make up the Willamette Valley Wine Trail more than make up for the investment.

The passports are usually available in the late summer, early fall time-frame. It is a great chance for locals to spend time at Polk County wineries. Get to know the owner or wine maker and find out if you have a favorite.

Once you find out who you like, all of our wineries in Polk County offer some kind of a wine club — a chance to support your local wine maker and feel like you're really part of something special.

Wine clubs tend to offer a discount on wines, free wine tastings year-round, and special

events, such as pairings of food and wine at dinners. Different wineries in the area offer different deals. Some ask you to make a purchase quarterly, while others ask you to purchase wine twice a year. You decide how much wine you buy to be a member of the wine club—anywhere from two bottles to 12.

Before you make your final decision about which wine club to join, don't forget to wander off the beaten trail and visit some of the more remote wineries, such as Cherry Hill or Cuban-isimo, which crafts a pinot gris that tastes like honey crisp apples.

Wherever you go, you won't be disappointed by the hospitality shown at each winery in Polk County, the varieties and quality of wines, and the amazing views to be had at each location.





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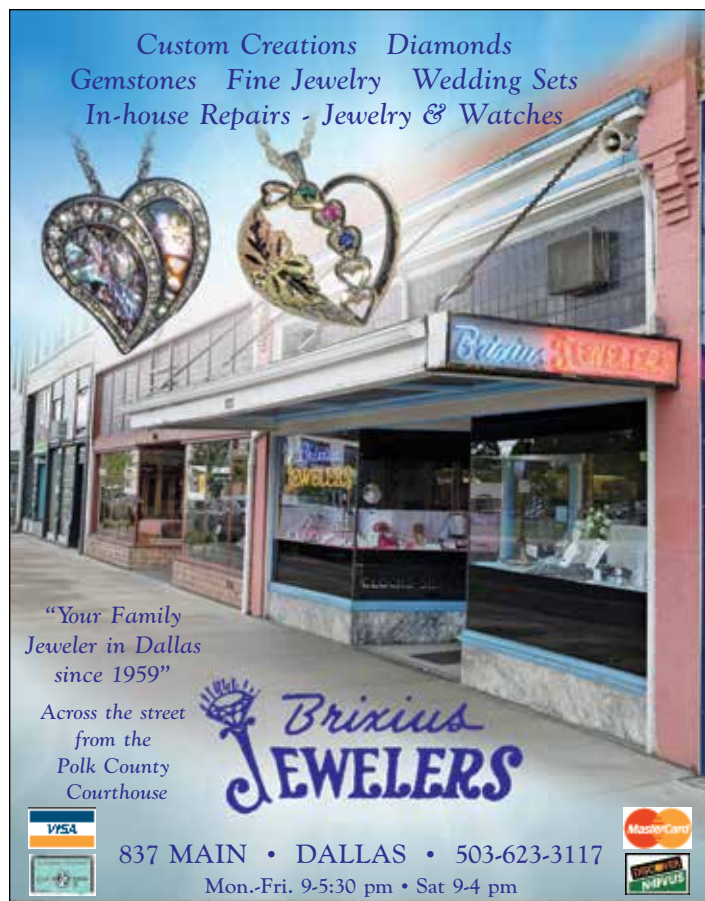
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# Homemade without the mess

POLK COUNTY RESTAURANTS SERVE UP QUALITY FOOD



“Those are things that stand out and you can tell the difference.”

Rachel Phelps  
Owner, Taters Café

**P**olk County does a lot of things well — including food. Breakfast, lunch or dinner, you have your options. And the cool thing about eating in Polk County is that you’ll find more than just a menu with good food, you’ll find businesses that were built on the idea of treating customers like family.

## Taters Café

Taters Café could be described as a hole-in-the-wall, and just from looking at it, you wouldn’t expect anything special — but places like that often provide the best experiences.

For starters, the food is locally sourced and homemade, said owner Rachel Phelps, which helps to add to the hometown feel that Dallas encompasses.

It’s got character too, a hodge-podge feel with mismatched cups and furniture, and cus-

tomers who come in at least once, if not twice, daily.

When she first bought the business in 2011, Phelps said she would be getting up at 3 a.m. to start producing the menu for the day; she did this for about six months nonstop.

“It got a bit wearing,” she said, but the growing business and the regulars who come in every morning, sometimes twice a day, was worth it, she said.

“There’s an instant sense of community there,” Phelps said. “It’s a place where people feel like they’re in their grandma’s house.”

The restaurant is small but Phelps says that’s what makes it what it is.

“In the mornings,” she said, “right around 9 or 10 a.m., it has this sound — of really happy people. The clangs of the utensils, outbursts of laughter and chit chat, and it has this really good feeling. It’s the intimacy that makes it





<p><b>Taters Café</b></p> <p><b>When:</b> 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p><b>Where:</b> 683 SE Jefferson St, Dallas, 97338</p> <p><b>Must-try Item:</b> Chicken-Fried steak, and Biscuits and Gravy; both items are homemade from scratch daily.</p>	<p><b>Pink House Café</b></p> <p><b>When:</b> 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday.</p> <p><b>Where:</b> 242 D St, Independence, 97351</p> <p><b>Must-try Item:</b> The curry — either the sandwich-based curry salad or the chicken curry salad with grains.</p>	<p><b>Yeasty Beasty</b></p> <p><b>When:</b> 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily</p> <p><b>Where:</b> 167 Main St W, Monmouth, 97361</p> <p><b>Must-try Item:</b> Bacon Mac pizza, sold every Tuesday. But make sure you get it while it's hot!</p>
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special.”

As the café grows in popularity, Phelps says she plans on making some changes.

“We’ve got some big plans for it this year,” she added, “remodeling, increasing the size of the back patio, and a few new menu items. But the soul of what it is will remain exactly the same.”

The menu is traditional American cuisine, and is open daily from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Pink House Café

You may not know it was a place to eat — from a distance you would think it was just a beautiful, bright pink home feet from the Independence Cinema.

Serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner, the Pink House Café offers soups, salads, sandwiches, entrées, pasta and amazing desserts.

“The menu has a little bit of everything in there,” manager Brenda Farley said. The original owner of the café, Paul Ritter, wanted a menu that contained something for every customer’s taste buds.

While the pricing is a little higher, it is most definitely worth it because you don’t just get good food — you get an atmosphere that is warm and inviting. Being family owned probably has something to do with that, and when you sit down to enjoy a meal, you’re not just a guest: you’re a part of the family.

Maria and Jorge Hernandez-Soto took ownership of the restaurant after Ritter wanted to retire, and now they run the café alongside their children.

Farley said she enjoys working with family.

“It’s fun,” she said, “it has its up and its down,” but at the end of the day, she said she would take working with family over a stranger any day.

## Yeasty Beasty

Established in 2012 by Thomas Jones and his wife, Carmen, Yeasty Beasty is quite popular already around Polk County. Known for using organically grown vegetables, locally-sourced meats and cheeses, its homemade pizza dough, and a lengthy beer list, this pizza joint serves everyone from the local college kid to little ones.

Every day, you can expect a chef’s special pizza, and daily specials are available from opening to 4 p.m., with the option of a Chef’s Special slice for \$2.99, or a lunch combo, which includes any slice and a mini house salad for \$6.99.

The chef’s specialty pizzas are always unique, with the idea of frequently giving customers something new to try.

“Most mornings, for about a half hour, I’ll sit there and shoot ideas around with the cook,” Manager Jason Waggoner said, keeping things

in mind like the ingredients they have on hand that day, and making sure they don’t repeat any ingredients they used the day prior.

It can be a completely spontaneous decision, Waggoner said. But whether they make a decision an hour before they open or 10 minutes, “it always works out well,” he said.



“People call in their Bacon Mac pizza in the morning just to make sure it doesn’t sell out”

Jason Waggoner  
Manager, Yeasty Beasty



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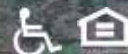


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**Where:** 1005 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas.

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**Of note:** Hours vary by season. For the latest hours, class schedules, recreational swim times, admission discounts, special events, and annual pass prices, check the aquatic center's website at [www.ci.dallas.or.us/DAC](http://www.ci.dallas.or.us/DAC).

**For more information:** 503-623-9715.

**F**ive pools — and plenty of fun — await you at the Dallas Aquatic Center, whether you are wanting to get in a workout or just splash around during recreational swim hours.

"During rec swim, the fountain's on, the slide is on, the diving board is open," said DAC Manager Gretchen Noll said. "We always have one lap lane available for use."

The center has five pools, a leisure pool with a fountain and lazy river; a therapy pool; lap pool with the center's 14-foot high, 105-foot long slide, a wading pool for little ones; and spa.

The center offers exercise options galore with 32 classes ranging from deep water (no touching the bottom of the pool) to raging river (running the river with and against the current).

Classes and rec swim times vary, so check [www.ci.dallas.or.us/83/Dallas-Aquatic-Center](http://www.ci.dallas.or.us/83/Dallas-Aquatic-Center).

Dallas Aquatic Center has special events, such as Tot Time (Fridays caregiver and child for \$3.50), adult water volleyball (Friday mornings) and moonlight swims (full moons).

"Whenever there's a full moon we stay open an hour later. It's for adults only. We turn off all the lights and have music playing," Noll said. "I think that's something most people don't know about."

The center is host to the Blue Dolphin Swim Team for competitive youth swimmers and has

a junior life guard program for children ages 11 to 16.

"We are transitioning that program to include more of the life guard skills so that when you turn 16 you are ready to take the life guard class," Noll said.

Noll said whatever your goal is with swimming, Dallas Aquatic Center has options for you. She added swimming and water safety should be a priority for all families.

"I think it's fun and a great way to stay active with your family."

Gretchen Noll  
Manager, DAC

"I think it's fun and a great way to stay active with your family. It's also an important skill," she said. "We are learning that swimming is not something that necessarily everyone can do, so I definitely recommend that people come and swim with their families regularly to at least instill the water safety aspect."



local







# Masticating and Murder

IDA BRINGS BACK A NIGHT FUN, FOOD, 'CRIME'

IDA MURDER MYSTERY PHOTOS BY 2CIC



## A dinner to die for

**For more information:** contact Marilyn Morton at [marilyn97351@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn97351@gmail.com), or [downtownindependence.com](http://downtownindependence.com)

*Look for ticket sales to begin toward the end of September.*

It's a dinner to die for. But don't worry — you'll leave the evening in one piece. The Independence Downtown Association is hosting another Murder Mystery dinner this year after the success of last year's event.

"It seemed to be enjoyed by everybody," Marilyn Morton, who serves on the Independence City Council and is founder and chair of the annual Ghost Walk, said. Why not bring it back for a second year?

The event serves as a fundraiser for IDA and will be on Oct. 20. Tickets will cost \$50. Last year the event was held at Independence Grill, and Morton said they sold about 100 tickets.

This year, the location has not been set yet, as details are still being hashed out, but Morton said those details will be revealed the closer it gets.

The evening will consist of happy hour, a dinner, and then a play that will be centered on

a suspicious death, set in the 1930s or '40s.

"This year, we're doing a totally new script," Morton said. "We're gonna be telling some back stories of the characters appearing in the (Sept. 22) Ghost Walk. Fact is not a consideration, so it will be purely entertainment."

Audience members are encouraged to dress up in time-period appropriate clothing for the evening.

The play is designed to keep the audience guessing until the very end.

"The answers will be revealed throughout the play," Morton said.

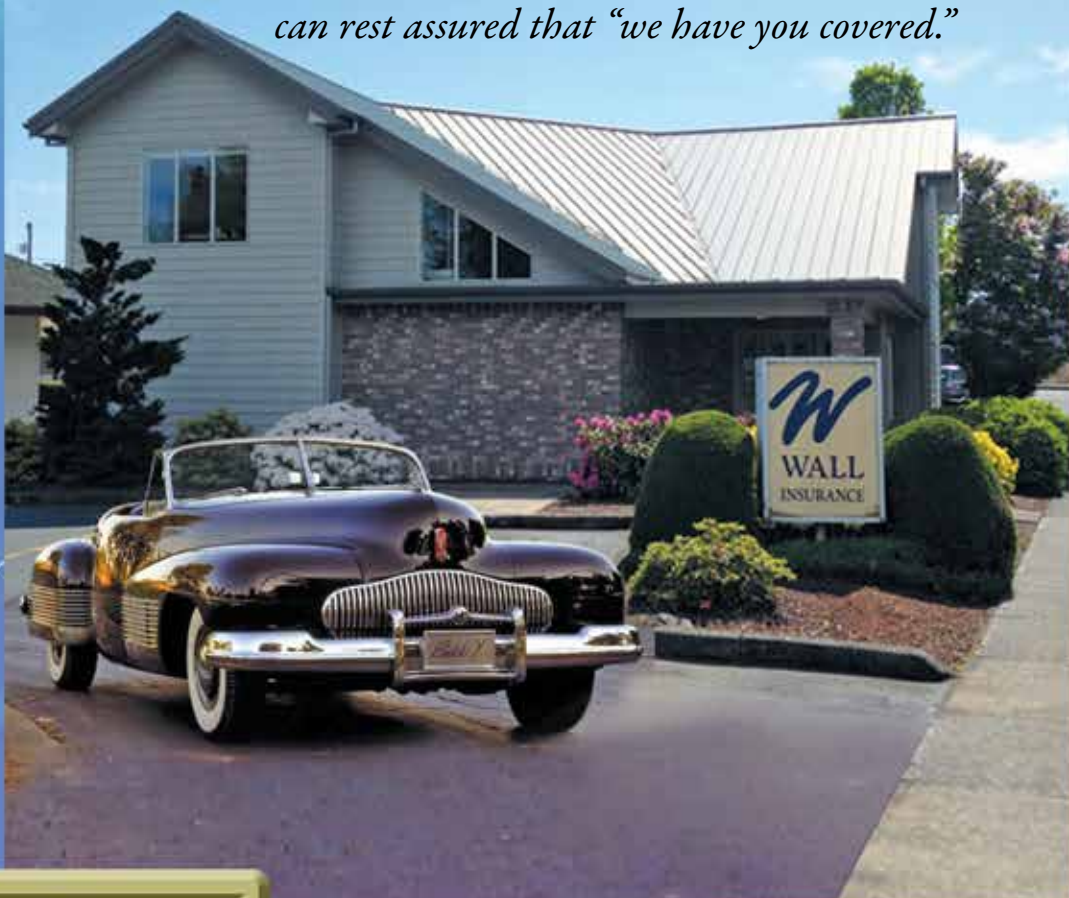
The idea for a murder mysteries dinner came from Imani Hall, who worked as IDA's manager in 2017.

"So it was his idea, and from there it just kinda took shape," she said.



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# Murder most fun

DDA PUTS ON MURDER MYSTERY EVENT



## Dallas Murder Mystery

**What:** Travel around historic downtown Dallas while trying to solve a murder.

**When:** Sept. 15

**Where:** Pressed Coffee and Wine Bar

**Cost:** \$10 per person

**Kid-friendly:** Yes

**W**hat's more fun than getting the family together and meandering through downtown Dallas? Trying to solve a murder as you go.

Come Sept. 15, the Downtown Dallas Association will host its second annual Murder Mysteries, where you get to wander around downtown Dallas hunting for clues and interacting with different characters spread out in businesses as you try and solve a murder.

This year, they'll start out with a funeral of the character, Drew Golden, who was both the murderer and murdered herself at the end of last year's, Eddie Nelson said.

"We're putting together the play right now," Nelson said.

Two hundred people showed up for the event last year, and this year, Nelson hopes to double that.

The event was created as a fundraiser for the DDA, as well as a way "to help revitalize downtown," she said, "and this is one way of bringing some life to downtown. It also brings the business owners together, and to bring people together and come into businesses they might not know are here."

The event is family-oriented and begins at 10 a.m. at Pressed, where you come in and register before heading out for clues. Prizes are given to

those who correctly guess who committed the murder.

It creates a really fun atmosphere, Nelson said.

The idea started when Nelson said she wanted to do something that was uniquely Dallas's and so far, this event is the only one like it in the valley.

If trying to solve a murder sounds fun but you want something a little more adult-oriented, the DDA also puts on a themed murder mystery dinner annually, where dinner and drinks are served as characters put on an interactive play, giving out clues to the audience so they can attempt to piece together "who done it."

"It was wonderful this year," Nelson said.

This year was the first year they had a murder mystery dinner, and it was a success, so Nelson is already planning a second one for next year, set to be in February or March.

The details are still being hashed out but, Nelson said, but last year they had 83 people attend, and she said she hopes next year's is just as popular, or more.

For more on the DDA and events: [dallasdowntownassociation.org](http://dallasdowntownassociation.org).



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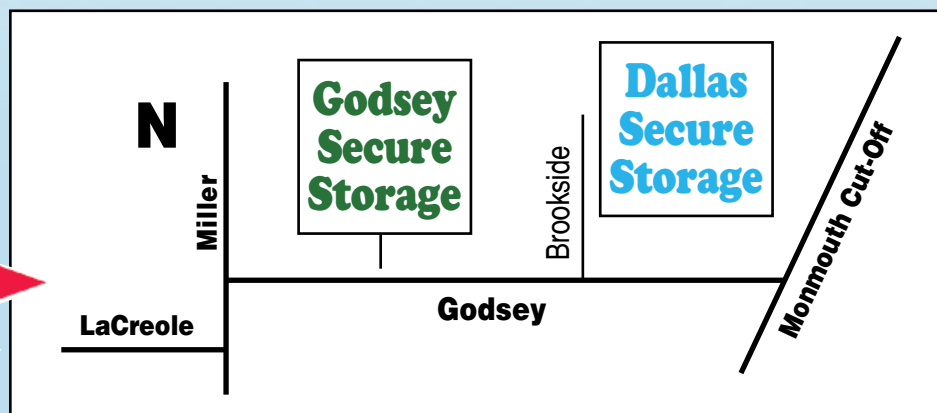
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# 'Putt' your skills to the test

MONMOUTH MINI-GOLF OFFERS CHALLENGES ON GREEN



## Put your skills to the test

**What:** Puttskee's Mini-Golf.

**Where:** 1510 Monmouth-Independence Highway, Monmouth.

**Cost:** \$3 per person (\$2 for second round).

**Hours:** Sunday through Wednesday, noon to 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, noon to 9 p.m. Special times for groups and parties can be scheduled. Open during summer, usually May through September, but is weather dependent.

**For more information:** 503-838-5888; online at [www.puttskeesminigolf.com](http://www.puttskeesminigolf.com).

**W**ant to put your putting skills to test at a place that provides laughs and memorable moments? Look no further than Puttskee's Mini-Golf, located next to the skate park in Monmouth.

For the past decade and a half, Bob Klinsky has been tinkering with Puttskee's, and it may be better than ever before.

It was more than 15 years ago that Klinsky opened Puttskee's Mini-Golf after noticing a need for an outdoor activity the whole family could enjoy together. He hasn't stopped improving the course since.

"I want to make it challenging enough that people want to come back and beat their score," Klinsky said. "Otherwise, they won't come back."

The course features several unique obstacles, including miniature bridges, a modified basketball hoop and holes surrounded by two steep hills. It won't take long for you to realize this is no ordinary mini golf course.

Among the features you'll run across includes a hole that splits into two different paths, navigating a loop made out of a tire and straight shots that aren't quite as simple as they seem.

If a particular challenge looks a little too daunting, fear not. Each hole offers multiple paths, ensuring each round is different than the

last. And the "course rules" are there to make sure everyone — from the person just picking up a putter to the experienced golfer — has a blast.

And it's not just families who drop by. Everyone from kids learning to putt for the first time to a group of friends looking to settle a score can be seen on any given day.

"I want to make it challenging enough that people want to come back"

**Bob Klinsky**  
Owner, Puttskee's Mini-Golf

"We had a group of high school kids come out here for their prom," Klinsky said. "They took a photo and played the course all dressed in their formal wear."

At only \$3 per person, this is an affordable activity the entire family can experience together.

Puttskee's is open seven days a week and operates during the summer. Operating hours are dependent on weather, so call ahead or check on the course's website.





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# Green thumbs galore

PASSIONATE PLANT PEOPLE READY TO HELP



## Where the Wild Things Are

**What:** Dancing Oaks Nursery.

**Where:** 17900 Priem Road, Monmouth.

**Hours:** The nursery is open March 1 to Oct. 31, Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visits by appointment only after hours and from Nov. 1 to Feb. 28. Dancing Oaks now offering shipping to anywhere in the U.S.

**For more information:** 503-838-6058; [www.dancingoaks.com](http://www.dancingoaks.com); or [www.facebook.com/DancingOaksNursery](https://www.facebook.com/DancingOaksNursery).

If plants are your passion, you will find your kind of people at Dancing Oaks Nursery outside of Monmouth.

The nursery was started in 1995 by owners Fred Weisensee and Leonard Foltz. They built Dancing Oaks on part of a farm and forested area that the Weisensee family owned.

"It was gradual a process. Leonard and I both were interested in plants, and he had worked at a nursery in Canby," Weisensee said.

He said they were inspired by green-thumbed relatives and what other nurseries had done with their display gardens.

Years after beginning the venture, Dancing Oaks stands as a gorgeous testament to the pair's passion for and knowledge of anything horticultural. The nursery's display gardens are an eclectic mix of native plants and those from Foltz and Weisensee's trips around the world.

"You want to put them in the ground. You

don't want to just grow them," Weisensee said. "And you learn so much. It's very helpful to have the garden in that you learn so much about the plants and which ones do well, and which ones don't."

The gardens invite exploration. Gravel and hazelnut-shell paths meander through the grounds, brimming with plants and pollinators — and even wandering nursery cats. Weisensee said the displays are an experiment in combining plants, rocks and outdoor art.

"Part of gardening is an artistry, too. There is a form and structure and texture, color. There's never-ending possibilities of things to play with," he said. "Along with structures, rocks pots, rocks gardening. It's fun to play with those things."

Heather Boright, spokeswoman for the nursery, said people are not only welcome to walk the garden for inspiration, but just to enjoy the peaceful surroundings. Customers can pack a





lunch and make an afternoon trip to Dancing Oaks.

"It's worth the drive," Boright said. "It's a really lovely destination."

Dancing Oaks carries rare plants that are difficult to find at other local nurseries, Boright said.

She said there are plants that may not show their full potential in a nursery pot.

"We grow them because we know that they are worth it once you get them into the ground," Boright said.

Dancing Oaks holds events in the spring and summer months when it is open regular hours, for Mother's Day, Father's Day and other occasions.

Its Father's Day celebration is June 17 this year.

"We usually do a Father's Day open house where every father gets a free plant," Boright said. "We define that pretty loosely. If you are a father of a dog, you get a plant."

The next week, Dancing Oaks will host its first Pollinator Festival, bringing experts on pollinators, including conservation districts, master gardeners and the Oregon Bee Project. The event is June 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

While the plant stock at Dancing Oaks is wide-ranging, you'll find employees have something in common.

"We are a group of passionate plant people," Boright said.

**"There's never-ending possibilities of things to play with."**

**Fred Weisensee**  
*Owner, Dancing Oaks Nursery*





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**JULY 13TH** - The Junebugs  
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**JULY 20TH** - Escape Journey Tribute  
w/ Unchained Van Halen Tribute

**JULY 27TH** - TBA

**AUGUST 3RD** - Beth Willis Rock  
w/ Infamous Soul

**AUGUST 10TH** - Appetite For Deception  
(Guns N Roses Tribute)

**AUGUST 17TH** - Renee Hill Band  
w/ Ty Curtis

### 2018 FREE MOVIE LINE-UP

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**JULY 1ST** - Top Gun

**JULY 12TH** - Coco

**JULY 19TH** - Splash

**JULY 26TH** - Jumanji (2017)

**AUGUST MOVIES START 8:30 PM**

**AUGUST 2ND** - Paranormal Activity

**AUGUST 9TH** - Karate Kid (1984)

**AUGUST 16TH** - Black Panther



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# Farm to you

LOCAL MARKETS FEATURE FRESH PRODUCE, GOOD TIMES

“We’re getting fresh food, just picked, that you can go get.”

Sue Barker  
Manager, Riverview Independence Market

**T**he farmers markets in Polk County run Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, rain or shine.

Independence markets run April through November. Markets in Dallas and Rickreall start in May.

The Original Independence Farmers Market, located in the parking lot of Umpqua Bank, offers plants, fruits, vegetables, berries, baked goods and crafts.

Market manager and founder Martha Walton said the market has been in place for nearly a quarter century.

“It’s a lot of fun,” she said. “I love meeting the people. We’re like a big family down there. It’s been there a long time.”

Over at Riverview Park, the Independence Riverview Market also have goods on offer.

While both markets will start a little small — harvests are not in full swing yet — Riverview

market manager Sue Barker said she loves what the farmers bring — literally — to the table each week.

“We’re getting fresh food, just picked, that you can go get,” Barker said. “It hasn’t traveled anywhere. It was probably picked the night before or first thing in the morning. You can’t beat fresh food. The flavor is different. Being able to put greens in the fridge and having them last and eat them all week instead of going to the grocery store and you have to throw it away after two days.”

The markets offer a variety of farm-fresh foods, from fruits and berries, vegetables and plant starts, to eggs and pasture chicken and beef.

There’s another thing that Barker said she loves about the market, and it doesn’t cost anything: advice, information, and camaraderie.

“People come in and take a look at this plant,





and ask where's the best place for it?" Barker said. "It's face-to-face conversations that go on that are absolutely hilarious. Pretty soon, there are two or three people throwing their ideas

**"I love meeting the people. We're like a big family down there."**

**Martha Walton**  
*Manager, Independence Farmers Market*

around. It's fun and informative."

Both markets run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday through November.

"It's like throwing a party every single Saturday and love it when everybody comes, and that keeps me going in between times," Barker

said.

When the calendar turns to May, it's Bounty season in Dallas. This year the market's ninth season.

The Polk County Bounty Market runs Thursdays May through September on the lawn by the Academy Building at the corner of Main and Academy streets.

While you might have to wait a few weeks to see summer produce, Bounty will have hanging baskets, plant starts, and delicious confections and baked goods ready for shoppers during the early season.

At the start of the season, the vendor list was at 13, but Bonnie Dreier, the market's manager, said she's hoping see the market grow this season and into the future.

"I want a lot of vendors," Dreier said. "I want people to be able to go there and buy every single thing they need for a meal."

### **Original Farmers Market**

**Where:** Umpqua Bank parking lot, 302 S. Main St., Independence.

**When:** Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., April through November.

**Contact:** Martha Walton, 503-881-9950.

### **Rickreall Farmers Market**

**Where:** Rickreall Grange Hall, 280 Main St. (Highway 99W), Rickreall.

**When:** Sundays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., May through November.

**Contact:** Martha Walton, 503-881-9950.

### **Riverview Farmers Market**

**Where:** Riverview Park and Amphitheater, 50 C St., Independence.

**When:** Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., April through November.

**Contact:** Sue Barker, 503-837-0045.

### **Polk County Bounty Market**

**Where:** Academy Building lawn, at corner of Main and Academy streets, Dallas.

**When:** Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., May through September.

**Contact:** Bonnie Dreier, 503-623-2564.

**Contact:** Sue Barker, 503-837-0045.



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# Schoolhouse turned music hall

GUTHRIE PARK HOSTS MUSICIANS OF ALL SORTS



## Jam time

**What:** Guthrie Park Friday night jams

**When:** Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** 4320 Kings Valley Highway, about three miles south of Dallas.

**Admission:** Free, but donations are accepted.

**Of note:** Guthrie Park hosts free gospel music jams the third Saturday of the month at 7 p.m.

Owner Sally Clark hadn't been the highest bidder when Guthrie Park Community Center was up for auction, it might have been a car garage instead of a gathering place for music lovers.

She says a group of her friends learned to play music together at the Pedee Country Store and rented the community center when the store closed in early 1987. The center came up for auction later that year, and Clark knew she had to put in a bid.

"I envisioned it to be what it is now," Clark said.

That is a place you can hear guitars, mandolins, fiddles, accordions and voices singing before you even open the door.

The soulful music — and the clear connection between the musicians playing it — is as comforting as a warm breeze even in the dead of winter.

"This is the only place I think I've been that we hear this music," said Corine Fraser, who spends each Friday night at the Guthrie Park Acoustic Jams.

She comes with her daughter, Joan Coleman, who plays the accordion.

"I just love the music. Everybody is so nice and friendly," Fraser said. "Joan has played ever since she was in the third grade. When we went camping, we would always take the accordion

with us, and we always had a group around us."

That tradition continues each Friday night at Guthrie. Coleman is part of more than a dozen musicians that dropped in the circle to play.

"Jam" is the correct description for the gatherings. There are no set lists or specific acts taking the stage. It's just people sharing a love of playing and listening to music. Starting in the center and moving clockwise, each musician selects a song and begins playing and sometimes singing it. Those who know the tune join in right away. Those who don't pick it up soon enough.

In the audience, toe tapping is contagious, and some sing or hum along with the tune.

The closeness of the players to the audience — most musicians sit in chairs in front of the stage, not on it — makes the gathering seem less like a concert and more like a group of friends having fun.

The jams began decades ago, part of Clark's vision to make the former schoolhouse a place where people could celebrate old-time folk, swing and country music.

It's working.

"It's just enjoyable to come in and listen to them. They have such a variety," Fraser said. "You find yourself singing with all the songs."



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# The professor's house

GENTLE HOUSE SERVES AS MUSEUM, EVENT CENTER



## History in a house

**What:** Gentle House.

**Where:** 345 N. Monmouth Ave., Monmouth.

**Contact:** 503-838-8673;  
gentlehouse@wou.edu.

**For more information:**  
www.gentlehouse.org.

**T**homas and Carrie Gentle, with five children in tow, moved from Wisconsin to Oregon in 1911. Thomas was recruited to lead the education department at Oregon Normal School (now Western Oregon University).

He had a notable influence, his students becoming master teachers and leaders in teacher education in Oregon and the United States in the 20th century.

He and his family still have a legacy on campus: the elegant Gentle House, the home the family purchased in 1914. The original part of the house was built in 1880 by J.B.V Butler and his wife, Elizabeth. Later owners expanded the house.

The Gentles raised their family in the house, and in 1981, the surviving daughter Catharine Gentle — also a teacher — donated the house to WOU.

“We are trying to bring back some more year-around events.”

**Kaylee DeBolt**

*Student Manager, Gentle House*

Now it serves as an event center and museum to the life and times of the family that gives the home its name. It's a popular venue for weddings, baby showers and graduation parties.

The Western Foundation administers the property with the help of students and professors at the university who oversee events at the house. Volunteer organization, Friends of Gentle House, help in restoration, and maintenance and promotion.





The 2-acre site retains many of the plants and trees put in by the Gentle family, some that are rarely seen in modern gardens.

"I love the history. There's something to the plants. There's something to the benches outside," said Kaylee DeBolt, the student manager for Gentle House. "There's history behind everything in this house down to the light fixtures almost. Everything has a story."

Gentle House holds three events that are open to the public throughout the year, including a holiday bazaar in November, an event that coincides with WOU's Christmas tree lighting and an open house in April.

"That's where we have everywhere from 14 to 18 vendors come to the house and it's kind of like an open house where people can come and see different gifts you can give to your party goers, these are the different photographer you use, some caterers," DeBolt said. "We've had

some bridal shop boutiques come and show off some gowns on the day of, so it's a wide variety."

DeBolt said she's planning to add more public events to the schedule this year, perhaps bringing back a haunted house for Halloween.

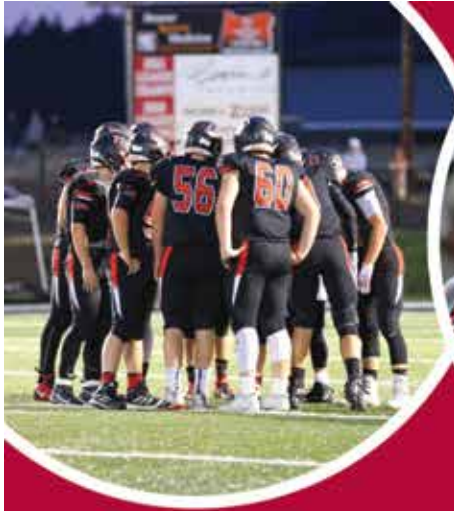
"We are trying to bring back some more year-around events," she said. "I want to see more people at the house."

DeBolt said she loves being a part of something with such rich history. Her favorite story is one about the family member who eventually donated the home to the university.

"I absolutely love the fact that Catharine, the daughter, got her own bedroom and four boys had to share a room. A much, much smaller room, as well," she said. "Because she was a girl, she was a little bit more special and she got a space to herself, and I just love that."







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# Festivals







# As American as apple pie

FOURTH FESTIVITIES TAKE PLACE IN FOUR CITIES



“I wanted to re-create the feeling I had in the past.”

**Phyllis Bolman**  
Organizer, Monmouth July Fourth Festival

**F**ourth of July in Polk County is nothing if not old-fashioned fun.

There are parades — grand, and small but delightfully spontaneous — watermelon eating contests, barbecues, plenty of music, and of course, fireworks.

Each of Polk County’s cities hosts its own unique celebration.

## Dallas

In a change from years past, Dallas’ Freedomfest will be held in Roger Jordan Community Park on July 4. Previously, the one-day event had been divided between Dallas City Park for day activities and Roger Jordan for evening music and fireworks.

Dallas Area Visitors Center, the event host, decided one location would result in less confusion.

“One of the major problems we have in

engaging more people was having two different locations,” visitors center executive director JD Shinn said.

The event opens at 2 p.m., with the barbecue competition, bingo, live music, food trucks, vendors and a beer garden.

“Also (we’ll be) adding in some kind of a sporting event, lawn games that people can enjoy as a community event,” Shinn said.

If your barbecue talents wow your friends and family, you might want to test your talents in the increasingly popular and competitive barbecue contest. It’s a non-sanctioned event, but cash prizes — and bragging rights — will be awarded to winners.

“Many of those vendors ... were on the phone during that weekend telling their friends ‘You’ve got to come back to this. This is so much fun,’” Shinn said.

Fireworks blast off, courtesy of Dallas Fire &





EMS, at about 10 p.m.

## Monmouth

If you are looking for a low-key July Fourth celebration, Monmouth's July Fourth Festival focuses on art and music.

The festival spans two days, July 3-4, with vendors selling handmade goods, a community art contest and musical acts from patriotic to swing.

"I wanted to re-create the feeling I had in the past," said Phyllis Bolman, one of the festival's organizers. "We try to continue keeping it very artistic and fun."

Bolman said the event is family friendly, with free activities for children to play or create.

"We have bounce houses, but hopefully they will do some art, because that is free to the kids," Bolman said.

Music acts include the Albany Swing Band, Willamette Valley Concert Band, and The Shinkle Band will play on July Fourth.

On Independence Day, Monmouth is where all the big events begin, including the Mini-Marathon, the Children's Parade and the finale Grand Parade.

The slightly downhill 2.6-mile Mini-Marathon begins at 11 a.m. After the runners have taken off, the Children's Parade begins at 11:30 a.m.

The Grand Parade follows at noon, and you want to stake your spot early. Seats along the route fill up fast — sometimes days in advance.

## Independence

Celebrating July Fourth 2018 in Independence will stretch from kickoff on July 1 to finale on July 4.

Sunday activities start with a church service in Riverview Park at 10 a.m., followed by a car show at noon.

For a second year, Independence Days will

feature Talent Quest, with a 2018 theme of "One Shining Moment."

The talent contest begins on Sunday, has semi-finals on Monday, and the winner will perform again on July Fourth.

"Then the winner of One Shining Moment Talent Quest will open for our headlining act on the Fourth of the July," said Janice Thompson, Independence Days organizer. "That's the grand prize."

Sunday evening brings a new event, a pitch fork barbecue.

"It's going to be this really big dinner. We're building this mobile barbecue pit that we'll have

**"We're building this  
mobile barbecue pit that  
we'll have down there."**

**Janice Thompson**  
*Organizer, Independence Days*

down there where people can sit by the fire and sit back and talk, socialize," Thompson said. "I'm looking forward to that. It sounds like it's going to be really fun."

Tickets for the barbecue are \$15 per person and \$25 for two. Capping the first day is an outdoor showing of "Top Gun."

Monday, the semifinals of Talent Quest will take the stage in the evening, but the day will mostly feature family friendly games in the park.

Tuesday is Hometown Appreciation Day, and this year an old event is returning to the Independence Days lineup.

"We are bringing back the duck derby," Thompson said. "We're going to have a rubber duck race from the bridge down to the park. The

winner will get half of the pot."

The watermelon-eating contest is always a popular event for kids — and eventually grownups, too.

"I like seeing the adults who don't want to sign up because they are too embarrassed who will end up with their faces in the watermelon just like the kids," she said.

Five Guys Named Moe, a 1970s and 1980s rock/disco group, will play Tuesday evening.

That night, a shorter fireworks show will shoot off, giving Independence residents and others a chance to watch a show without the crowds.

Independence Day bring the Mini-Marathon, Children's Parade and Grand Parade. Local musician Kurt Van Meter headlines the entertainment, playing before and after the fireworks display.

Thompson said she takes a few moments to enjoy the atmosphere just before the fireworks light up the sky on July Fourth.

"If you stop and look out at the park, just to see how many people are there enjoying themselves together there as a family," she said. "We are really proud of the fact that it's an alcohol-free event, and it's just a family friendly thing that people can come to."

## Falls City

Falls City typically celebrates Independence Day a day or two early with a short, but red, white and blue-filled parade.

Following that, for the last two years, residents have gathered in the Lower Park for a community barbecue.

Details on the holiday festival are usually hammered out during the summer, so check back a little closer to the Fourth to find out what fun Falls City has in store.





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# Celebrate Dallas

BLACK AND ORANGE TO DOMINATE DECOR THIS JULY



## Summerfest

**Where:** Dallas downtown area

**When:** July 27-29, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

**For more info:** Contact the DAVC at 503-623-2564, or visit their website: [exploredallasoregon.org](http://exploredallasoregon.org).

Summerfest has always been a way to celebrate the Dallas community, and this year, organizers from the Dallas Area Visitors Center are doing it a little differently.

For starters, the theme is Black and Orange.

What better way to celebrate Dallas than by holding Summerfest around a theme that is close to the hearts of many in the community.

"We went with orange and black because it can go in a lot of different directions," JD Shinn said. "We want people to take it and run. Get people thinking outside the box."

It's a hometown theme, he added, being the colors of the Dallas High School Dragons.

Summerfest is an event that has been going on for a long time. Lately, it's hit a bit of a snag.

"It's kind of had a bit of stagnancy as of late," Shinn said.

The reason for that, he said, was being

"I'm excited about some of the more engaging games."

JD Shinn

Organizer - Summerfest

comfortable with how things have been and not taking the time to revitalize certain aspects of the event.

This year, Shinn said he wants to change that.

"We've been trying to make the right changes," he said, with one of the changes focusing on the downtown area.

"We really want to highlight Dallas area businesses, whether they are new or have been here a long time. We wanna have such a cool buzz





about our community that we want people to come join us," Shinn said.

Another change is cutting the event down by a day.

"Thursday historically has been a low turnout day," Shinn said. "In order to utilize days of engagement, we switched from doing Thursday at all to Friday. Kind of a shrink to do it bigger, in a way."

Summerfest begins Friday, July 27 at 10 a.m. through July 29.

Throughout the weekend, there will be vendors of all sorts set up, most of them local, mid-valley vendors; a demonstration from Parkside Self Defense; a performance from Extreme Dance Company; a flea market, put on by the Kindness Club; bingo; a youth art competition; a fire department meet-and-greet; hydro-cart races, a dunk tank, with a theme of "Dunk a Dignitary," and a rubber ducky race.

Both Friday and Saturday evenings will close out with a concert.

On Saturday, the parade starts at 11 a.m., followed by a performance from Johnny Wheels, a blues/Americana artist. And later that evening is the annual Booster Club run.

A Rotary breakfast kicks Sunday off, as well as a car show and Art in the Park.

Infamous Soul, a local band, will close Summerfest out Sunday evening.

"I'm excited about some of the more engaging games we'll have this year," Shinn said. "Just ways for the community to get involved. We have some things coming in that are outside of what we've done in the past, so that's exciting."

He said there are opportunities for vendors to participate, and for sponsorships, as well as volunteer opportunities.





# MEDICAL DIRECTORY

## ACUPUNCTURE

• **Lyndsay Posey, L.Ac.; Gabriel Prewitt, L.Ac:** **Willamette Acupuncture and Wellness**—289 E. Ellendale Ave., Suite 601, Dallas, 503-751-1460. We specialize in the treatment of pain, fertility, digestive disorders and motor vehicle accidents. We accept all insurance and offer free 15 minute consultations.

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Salem Health West Valley medical and specialty clinics are accepting new patients at their locations in Dallas, Monmouth and Independence. With a proactive health care approach, the clinics provide care for all ages from newborns to adults. Services include annual exams, immunizations,

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• **Family Medicine**—555 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-623-7301

• **Specialty Clinic**—591 SE Clay St., Dallas, 503-831-0784

• **Central Health and Wellness Center**—1601 Monmouth St., Suite 100, Independence, 503-838-0045

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## COUNSELING

• **Cross & Crown Counseling: Kate Koens, NCCA Licensed Clinical Christian Counselor and Certified Temperament Therapist.** She works with individuals in a safe environment to help individuals find healing and fulfillment by teaching good communication skills, appreciation for self and others, appropriate responses to individual and family needs, how to build relationships of trust, appropriate crisis responses, and how to obtain overall family wellness emotionally, mentally and spiritually. Some specific areas of counsel offered are marriage and family adolescent issues, depression, past and present trauma, grief, identity crisis, divorce, childhood losses, and feelings of hopelessness. Our goal is to help individuals to their full potential and to live decisively with truth, relevance and purpose. For more information or to schedule an appointment please call 503-917-1625 or visit our website: [www.crossandcrowncounseling.com](http://www.crossandcrowncounseling.com)

## DENTIST/ORTHODONTICS

• **Dr. Kenneth Winokur:** 503-838-1633, 329 S. Main St., Independence. New patients welcome, relaxing gas available, many insurance plans accepted, evening hours. [www.independencedental.org](http://www.independencedental.org)

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## HOSPICE

• **Willamette Valley Hospice—a non-profit organization since 1978** based in Polk County, provides comprehensive hospice care services, pain management, grief services, and support for those patients and families facing serious or life-limiting illness. Through its mission of "changing the end of life experience," Willamette Valley Hospice supports adults and children living with a serious or life-limiting illness throughout Polk and Marion counties and beyond. We offer unique hospice programs, including music therapy, massage therapy, veteran services, pet therapy & programs, home palliative care, and a specialized adult foster home for hospice patients. Administrative offices are located at 1015 3rd St NW in West Salem. Patients and families are served wherever they call home. For more information on any service or program, call 503.588.3600 or visit [wvh.org](http://wvh.org).

## IMAGING SERVICES

• **Salem Health West Valley:** 525 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-623-7302. With your physician's referral, we provide all-digital diagnostic services: bone densitometry, CT scan, fluoroscopy, mammography, ultrasound, X-ray and MRI. Visit [salemhealth.org/westvalley](http://salemhealth.org/westvalley).

## LABORATORY SERVICES

• **Salem Health West Valley Dallas lab,** 525 SE Washington St., open 24 hours, seven days a week, 503-623-7303. Learn more at [salemhealth.org/westvalley](http://salemhealth.org/westvalley).

• **Salem Health West Valley Monmouth lab,** 512 Main St., Suite 300, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed between noon and 1 p.m., 503-838-8345. Learn more at [salemhealth.org/westvalley](http://salemhealth.org/westvalley).

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## REHABILITATION/PHYSICAL THERAPY

• **Salem Health West Valley,** 525 SE Washington St., Dallas. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and aquatic therapy at Dallas Aquatic Center, 503-623-7305. Learn more at [salemhealth.org/westvalley](http://salemhealth.org/westvalley).

• **Salem Health West Valley,** 512 Main St., Monmouth. Physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy, 503-838-1388. Learn more at [salemhealth.org/westvalley](http://salemhealth.org/westvalley).





# Tropics come to Polk County

TROPICAL NIGHTS, COUNTRY LIGHTS THEME OF FAIR



**S**ummertime in Polk County means a slower pace to everyday life, hot, lazy days floating down the river, sunbathing in your backyard, and — of course, the Polk County Fair.

Coming to the fairgrounds Aug. 9 through 11, the theme this year is: Tropical Nights and Country Lights. So whip out that tropical shirt you bought on vacation in Hawaii last year, and those cowboy boots you keep stuffed in the back of your closet, and stroll on in to enjoy a weekend of entertainment.

Each year, the themes are put up on poster boards for people to vote on, Manager Tina Andersen said.

“So the public actually picks our themes.”

She said there are places on the boards for people to offer their own suggestions, and then, at the end of the voting process, the theme that received the most votes is chosen.

Having a theme is fun, Andersen said, because it helps in knowing how to decorate for the weekend.

“The 4-H kids decorate; flower arrangements, entries, are based on the theme. We’re always looking for something good to decorate to,” she said.

Entertainment for this year will include 4-H and FFA animal shows, bouncy houses, a rock

“So the public actually picks out our themes.”

**Tina Andersen**  
Manager, Polk County Fair

climbing wall, a mechanical bull ride, and a big slide.

The fair will also feature a rodeo on Thursday night, a talent showcase Friday and Saturday nights, and an ATV Rodeo.

Everything is still in the works, Andersen said.

“We will probably have a monster truck ride again; we’ve done that for the last couple years.”

The Polk County fair began in 1913, when stocks were sold to begin building a fairground, and in 1924, Dallas donated land, a stock shed, and a pavilion, according to the Polk County website.

The first documented fair was in 1934, held at the Dallas Armory; in 1940, it was moved to the Grandstand at Oregon State College of Education, what is now Western Oregon University, and was held there until 1952, when it moved locations again to where it currently resides.



## Polk County Fair

**When:** Aug. 9-11

**Where:** Polk County Fairgrounds

**Admission:** \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors 62+ and juniors age 11-15, free 10 and younger, free to military members with ID

**Additional info:** Seniors free on Thursday until 4 p.m., Parking \$3 per car



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# Hear ye, hear ye

COME HITHER, YE DAMSELS AND KNIGHTS



“Wearing the clothes of the time gives you permission to have that kind of fun.”

Adrian Hughes  
Organizer, Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire

If all the world's a stage, the Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire is a special kind of theater.

One where audience participation isn't just welcomed, but expected.

Shrewsbury transforms a farm field in Kings Valley into a bustling Elizabethan village, complete with marketplace, a blacksmith, two taverns and, naturally, a jousting ring.

The two-day festival began in 1995, the vision of founder Leslie Engle. She envisioned creating a small, but historically accurate, festival. To make that vision a reality, organizers took two years to handpick vendors and participants they wanted before holding the first fair.

Engle has since passed away, but that dream is being carried forward by her son, Adrian Hughes and his wife Jackie Hughes.

“People get caught up in it,” Adrian said. “Wearing the clothes of the time gives you permission to have that kind of fun.”

Expect to see more than 1,000 event volunteers in costume as knights and maidens, lords and ladies, and more than 125 artisan vendors. There are scores of historical re-enactment groups featuring dancers, jugglers, magicians, musicians, storytellers and theatrical performers.

Festival-goers can learn how to swing a sword or shoot a longbow at one of several

interactive exhibits. A jousting exhibition, combat melee and horsemanship demonstration are highlights not to be missed.

Dressing in the fashion of the time and using the language is encouraged, but by no means required. You should bring your sense of humor and know that street performers like to engage festival attendees just as if they were living in the village.

That is the part Adrian enjoys the most, and what he carries on in his mother's stead — the spirit of the time re-created, if just briefly.

“Whatever magic there is in being able to come up to and interact with someone — touch their lives for a moment — no matter what you do with your shtick, it's very moving,” Adrian said.



## All the world's a stage

**What:** 2018 Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire.

**When:** Sept. 8-9 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Where:** One block east of Kings Valley Highway (Highway 223) on Grant Road.

**Admission:** \$14 for adults, \$7 for seniors and children 6-12, and free for kids 5 and younger. Parking is free.

**For more information and admission discounts:** [www.shrewfaire.com](http://www.shrewfaire.com).



# 2018 Dallas Summer Events Schedule

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and made possible by the generosity of our Sponsors



ONLY weekday  
Farmers' Market  
in Polk County!

Every Thursday  
May - September  
10 am - 3 pm  
Live Music  
11 am - 1 p.m.

Academy Lawn in Dallas  
(corner of Main & Academy)



FREE  
OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Bring your own blanket or chairs!  
Food Trucks at every concert & Beer  
Garden where noted. (B)

6/7: Kurt Van Meter (Country) (B)  
6/21: Zoe Imperium (Indy Rock)  
7/5: Abbey Road Live (Beatles Tribute band) (B)  
7/19: Cash & Company (Folk & Fiddle) (B)  
8/2: Youngberg Hill (Bluegrass) (B)  
8/16: Christian Music Festival Hours: 4 - 8 p.m.  
8/23: Grateful Dead Tribute (B)  
8/30: Johnny Limbo & the Lugnuts (Classic Rock)

Academy Lawn in Dallas (corner of Main & Academy)



Wednesday, July 4  
2 pm - 11 pm

Roger Jordan  
Community Park

BBQ Competition  
Beer Garden  
Vendors  
Music  
Bingo

AWESOME Fireworks at dusk!



BLACK & ORANGE  
HOMETOWN PRIDE!  
July 27 - 29

PARADE with DHS Alumni Floats  
BEER GARDEN  
ART COMPETITION  
LIVE MUSIC  
FOOD TRUCKS  
VENDOR BOOTHS  
DUNK TANK  
BINGO  
EVENING CONCERTS



Sunday, August 5  
10 am - 3 pm  
Everyone Welcome  
Dallas City Park  
Gazebo Area

Lunch, live music,  
memorabilia, old  
style board & lawn  
games, special  
guests, bingo & more!

## 2018 DALLAS SUMMER EVENTS SCHEDULE

May	June	July	August	September
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4	30 1
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29

■ Bounty Market ■ Sounds of Summer ■ Freedomfest ■ Summerfest ■ Reunion Picnic

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# Heritage festival rejuvenated

IDA BRINGS IT BACK AS BLOCK PARTY



IDA needs volunteers  
for the Hop and  
Heritage Block Party,  
not only on the day, but  
to get prepared.

**L**ast year, the Hop and Heritage Festival was called off for lack of interest. The Hop and Heritage commission, part of the city, was low in numbers with empty seats. Volunteers were difficult to recruit.

So, the festival took a year off.

Now, the Independence Downtown Association is working hard to bring the festival back, rejuvenated, infused with the support of downtown business owners.

"We have just started meeting about it and putting out the beginning, planning prep work," said Alexandra Ferrara, Independence Downtown Association manager. "We're rebranding it as the Hop and Heritage Block Party instead of festival."

Plans are in the works to bring the party back on the street, closing down Main Street on Sept. 15. Business owners are excited to get involved in

the planning, including recruiting breweries to participate.

Bringing it back on the street means businesses will be able to open their doors and welcome the community rather than hope they get overflow from the festival, said Kate Schwarzler, IDA board president.

"It would be a shame to see the Hop and Heritage Festival go away or just lose its energy, because the community is really unique in that the hop history is really cool, the heritage is phenomenal," she said. "We have a really incredible Main Street with all these historic buildings. I think it kind of becomes part of the background sometimes and maybe we take it for granted."

The annual free Ghost Walk will be on Sept. 14. Be sure to pick up the Polk County Itemizer-Observer or visit us online at [polkio.com](http://polkio.com) for details of this revived festival as it gets closer to the event.



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# Tis the season

SANTA TURNS ON LIGHTS IN EACH POLK COUNTY TOWN



“It’s a time to bring the community together and celebrate the season.”

**Jennifer Drill**  
Coordinator, Falls City Christmas Tree Lighting

**T**he beginning of December kicks off the Christmas season in Polk County, with events in every city. Here is what is happening when Santa comes to town:

## DALLAS

Winterfest officially begins at 5 p.m. on Dec. 7, with retail and food vendors, cookies, cocoa and Christmas music.

When Santa arrives a little after 6, he will have tree lighting responsibilities, in addition to hearing the wishes of the good little boys and girls.

St. Nick will still light the sequoia on the Polk County Courthouse lawn and then find his seat of honor to listen to Christmas wishes and take photos with local families.

This year, the event will add a Christmas carol sing-along to get everyone in the holiday spirit.

While Santa arriving via fire department escort is the most exciting part of the evening, the best part of Winterfest is the time Santa spends with children after the tree lighting.

## MONMOUTH

The festivities that ring in the season start in Monmouth at 6 p.m. on Nov. 30 — all centered around the campus of Western Oregon University, celebrating its 51st annual tree lighting.

At 6, the holiday parade marches through downtown Monmouth and onto campus. The parade includes lighted entries from campus groups, as well as Polk County Fire District No. 1. Santa Claus rides a brightly lit fire engine to the Werner University Center, where he will be available for photos with Mrs. Claus throughout the evening.

The entire campus will go dark before the 131-year-old sequoia tree will come alive with



lights in dramatic fashion, and then people can make their way to the Werner Center or down to the Historic Gentle House.

The Werner Center will be bustling with activities, from music to crafts for the whole family.

Perhaps the most fun is the annual cookie bakeoff, where students, staff and faculty submit their best cookies, and the public gets to be the judge. Before you leave campus, make your way to Gentle House for the annual Wine, Warmth and Music, starting at 7 p.m.

For more information: [wou.edu](http://wou.edu).

Perhaps the most fun  
is the annual cookie  
bakeoff.

## INDEPENDENCE

The Independence Downtown Association and Portland & Western Railroad will bring Santa Claus to Independence Cinema by train from 1 to 3 p.m. on Dec. 1. The annual tradition brings a chance for families to get pictures with the Big Man himself, who has toys for youths ready to hand out. Various booths will be set up in the cinema's parking lot with people to teach children about railroad safety to people helping write letters to Santa.

Later, the 15th annual Parade of Lights will make its way around downtown. Last year, IDA changed the parade route to stay in the downtown area, looping down Osprey Lane and back up Main Street, gathering in Riverview Park. The parade officially starts its trek to Main Street at 5 p.m.

Afterward, all are welcome to an open house at a location to be determined for hot cider, hot chocolate, and cookies — made by volunteers.

At the open house, parade participants will be awarded the President's Choice, Best Use of Lights, Best Commercial Entry, and Best Group/Organization Entry.

## FALLS CITY

Now in its seventh year, the Christmas tree lighting in Falls City has become a holiday tradition.

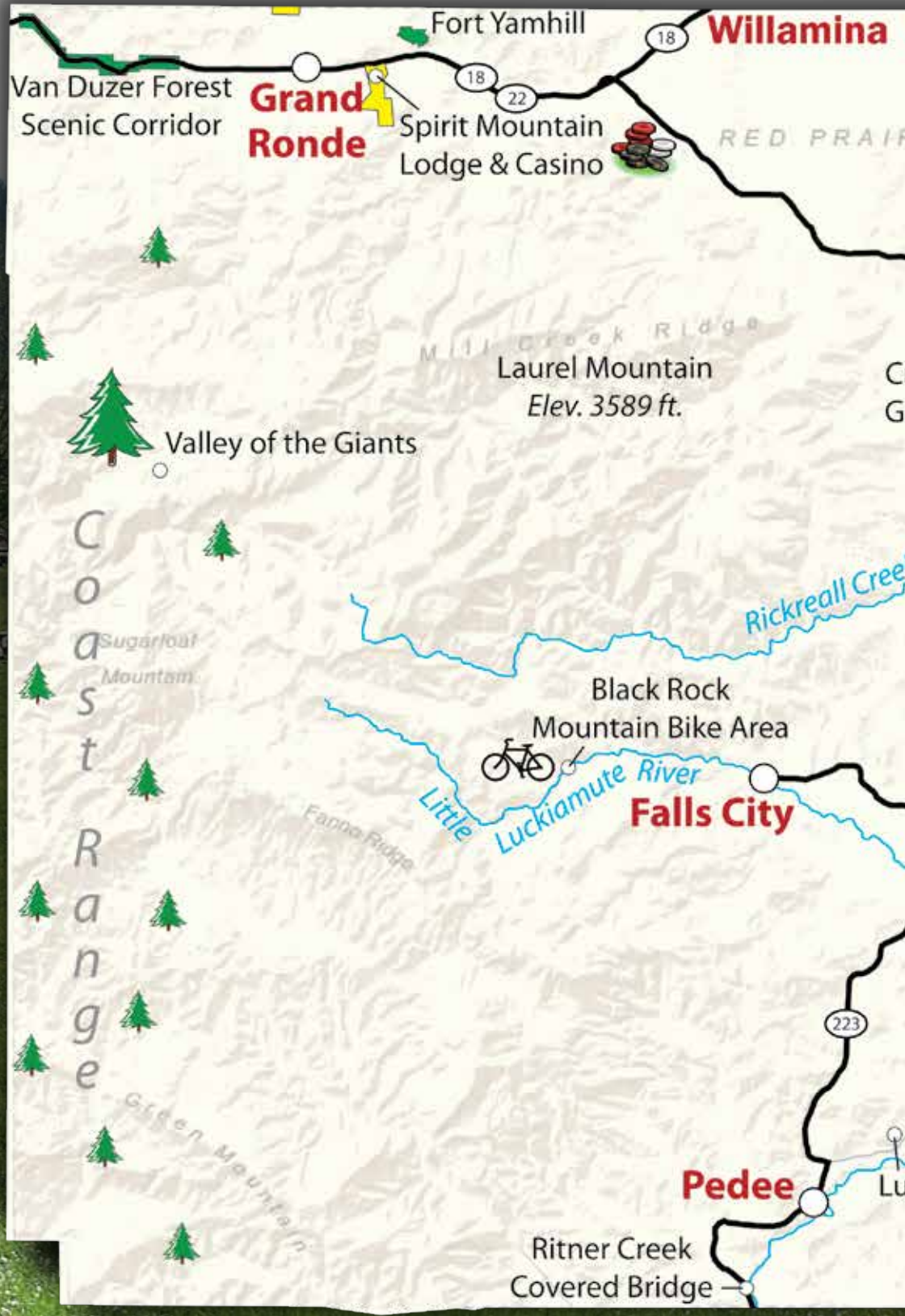
The gathering to celebrate a tree lighting in the parking lot next to Mountain Gospel Fellowship Church, 257 N. Main St. See future issues of the Itemizer-Observer for details on time and date.

Coordinator Jennifer Drill said the lighting will be a festive, but simple occasion, with hot chocolate, cider and desserts, and Christmas music to provide holiday spirit.

"It's a time to bring the community together and celebrate the season and our community."















# Polk County Church Directory

## DALLAS

**Calvary Chapel Dallas**—Currently meeting for worship and verse by verse Bible teaching at 628 SE Jefferson St. Worship service begins at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Sunday school is available from youth ministry and below to nursery. Wednesday evening worship and bible study starting at 6:30 p.m. Come join us for a relaxed study around a cup of coffee or drink. Men's prayer is Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Women's Bible studies are scheduled also, call for times. The Pastor/Teacher is Larry King. Come join us and be a part of God's family here in Dallas. Check out our website at [www.calvarydallasor.com](http://www.calvarydallasor.com) or call 503-831-1074.

**Dallas Foursquare Church** - Located at 976 SW Hayter St., on the corner of Washington and Hayter. Worship Gatherings: Sundays at 10:00 a.m., Youth Home Groups: Sunday evenings from 6-8:00 p.m. Please call for locations. We are a multi-generational church with a heart for our community. Our mission is to Love God and Love People to Extend His Kingdom. Pastor: Darrin Hausler. For more info call us at 503-623-8277 or visit us online at [dallasfour.com](http://dallasfour.com).

**Dallas Presbyterian Church**—Invites you: Warm, spirit-filled fellowship with traditional Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., engaging discussion study groups, prayer "chain" and a loving spirit—Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m., men's breakfasts Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m., women's groups, needle craft group and Indoor Play Park (for children with accompanying parent). Sensitivity to older adult accessibility and needs. 789 SW Levens, Dallas. 503-623-3397 [dalpreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:dalpreschurch@gmail.com)

**Evangelical Bible Church**—1175 S.E. Howe, Dallas 503-623-2331. Senior Pastor Jerry Franz, Visitation Pastor Allan Wiebe, Youth Pastor Nathan Ens. Sunday: Worship \*8:00 a.m.; \*10:45 a.m.; \*6:00 p.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; High School Youth Group 7:00 p.m.; Thursday: Jr. High Youth Group - 7:00 p.m.; 2nd & 4th Tuesday: MOPS \*9:00 a.m.; Wednesday: AWANA - 6:30 p.m.; Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 7:00 p.m.; Thursday: Bible Studies \*9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (women); Group Bible Study 2:00 p.m. \*Nursery care provided.

**Faith Church**—We are a multi-generational community engaged in the mission of sharing God's love and the Good News of Jesus near and far. We invite you to join us this Sunday for our 10:30 a.m. worship gathering. We are located at 2290 E. Ellendale Avenue. For more information, call us at (503) 623-8034, email us at [info@faithfreechurch.org](mailto:info@faithfreechurch.org), check out our website [www.faithfreechurch.org](http://www.faithfreechurch.org), or follow us on social media @FaithEFCDallas.

**First Baptist Church**—245 SW Church St., Dallas, 503-623-5189; Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 3-5 p.m., Wednesday 3-7 p.m. Pastor Rick Bratton. Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 6-7:00 p.m. Everyone Welcome!

**First Christian Church**—Joyfully Worshiping and Serving. We are located at 1079 SE Jefferson St. Dallas, Pastor Darren Anderson. Sunday begins with "Live Wire Worship" with Praise Team at 8:30 a.m., Sunday School for all ages is at 9:30, and Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. with nursery provided at all services. Men's Bible Study meets Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m.; Christian Women's Fellowship meets the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. (Sept. – June). Please call the church office at 503-623-2569, for more information on other meetings and events or check our website at [www.dallas1stchristianchurch.wordpress.com](http://www.dallas1stchristianchurch.wordpress.com).

**Grace Community Church**—598 E Ellendale Ave. Dallas, 503-623-4961. Lead Pastor- Dave Bertolini, Sunday Worship: 1st Worship Gathering- 9:00 a.m., with Youth & Adult Sunday School running concurrently. 2nd Worship Gathering- 10:45 a.m. Programs for children ages 0-5th grade provided during both services. Saturday Night Worship Gathering at 6:00 p.m. year round-all are welcome! \*Summer Schedule June 17-Sept 2, Youth & Adult Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Gathering at 10:45 a.m. with children ages 0-5th grade provided. Visit our website at: [www.graceindallas.org](http://www.graceindallas.org) for office hours, sermon downloads, event information and more!

**Living Word Faith Fellowship**—830 SE Shelton St., Dallas, 503-623-9062. Pastor Joan Siewert. Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m. Children's Sunday Service 10:00 a.m., Nursery Provided. Men's Fellowship second Saturday of month breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at Murphy's Restaurant, Dallas. Ladies second Saturday of the month at 11:30 call for location. Pastor Michael Van Dyke in charge of men's fellowship. Call for additional information.

**Salt Creek Baptist Church**—15075 Salt Creek Road, Dallas, 503-623-2976. Lead Pastor David Curtis. Associate Pastor Vince Rediger. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship 10:50 a.m. Nursery provided for worship services. Classes for all ages. High School Students meet at 7:00 pm on Tuesday and Middle School Students meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Please call for information about other meetings or visit our website at [www.saltcreekchurch.org](http://www.saltcreekchurch.org).

**St. Philip Catholic Church**—825 SW Mill St., Dallas, 503-623-2440. Weekday Mass 12:15 p.m., Saturday Vigil, 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**—1486 SW Levens St., Dallas at the corner of Levens & Cherry. Worship with Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. Father Fred Heard, Vicar. We have a longstanding tradition of friendly hospitality toward all people regardless of race or ethnicity, marital status, disability or socio-economic status. We are a "Believe Out Loud" church welcoming and affirming individuals who are LGBTQ. Email: [stthomasdallasor@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasdallasor@gmail.com)/[www.stthomasdallasor.org](http://www.stthomasdallasor.org). 503-623-8522. St. Thomas WELCOMES YOU!



**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**—1401 SW 13th Street, Dallas. Visitors are welcome to attend any of the three wards Sundays. Oakdale Ward, Bishop Roger Shinkle: 503-269-9634. Sacrament meeting 9 a.m.; Cooper Hollow Ward, Bishop Scott Short: 503-932-6462. Sacrament meeting 11 a.m.; Perrydale Ward, Bishop William Fullmer: 503-930-5109. Sacrament meeting 1 p.m. Youth Groups all meet Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Missionaries are available for in-home teaching: 503-917-1847 or 541-441-3598 or 503-857-8828. Please visit our website at [mormon.org](http://mormon.org) Wednesdays 7 p.m. Missionaries available for in-home teaching: 503-917-1847 or 503-857-8828 or 503-441-3598, Visit our website at [mormon.org](http://mormon.org) and visit our website to volunteer in the communities throughout Polk County at JustServe.org.

**Trinity Lutheran Church**—320 SE Fir Villa Rd, Dallas, 503-623-2233. Interim Pastor – Kristi Kreamer. Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m.; Kids Church during 10:00 a.m. Worship. Youth Group HS/MS 11:30 a.m. Sundays. Free Medical Clinic 1st & 4th Saturday of each month. [www.dallastlc.org](http://www.dallastlc.org). Catch us on Facebook.

**United Methodist Church**—A church with Open Hearts, Open Minds & Open Doors. 565 SE LaCreole Dr., Dallas, 503-623-2481. Pastor-Rev. Quinton Kimbrow. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. (Summer Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. from June 10-Sept. 2— No Sunday school.) All are welcome! Email [dallasumc@qwestoffice.net](mailto:dallasumc@qwestoffice.net) Website: [www.sites.umcdallas.com](http://www.sites.umcdallas.com)

**Valley Life Center (Assemblies of God)**—1795 SE Miller Ave., Dallas, 503-623-4116. Pastor Chris Baker, Associate Pastor Ted Gibson, Youth/College: Kirk and Mateasa Bathke, Children: Crystal Barker, Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am, Wednesday Family Night 6:30 pm. Please call for more information or visit our website at [www.valleylifecenter.com](http://www.valleylifecenter.com)

## INDEPENDENCE

**Cornerstone Church of God**—4395 Independence Hwy, Independence, 503-838-5119, Sunday: Service and Children's Church 9:30 a.m. Wednesday: Kids Klubs 6:30 p.m. during school year Thursday: Bible Study 6:30 p.m. See us on Facebook. Watch service live at: website [www.ccogi.org](http://www.ccogi.org)

**First Baptist Church**—A warm, friendly church that cares about you! Located at 1505 Monmouth St., Independence (across from Central High School); (503) 838-1001. Senior Pastor Michael Parks. Sundays: Worship Service and Children's Ministry at 11 am Wednesdays: AWANA 7 pm (during the school year). Thursdays: Youth Group 6:15pm. First Baptist Church has small groups and Bible Studies throughout the week. Check us out at [www.independencefirstbaptist.com](http://www.independencefirstbaptist.com)

**Life Center Foursquare Church**—437 D Street, Independence, OR. Phone: 503-838-6507. Pastor Larry Gratreak. Worship Service and Sunday School starts at 10:30 a.m. Various studies, Prayer Groups, and Home Fellowships available throughout the week. Call for more information. You are welcome! Find us on Facebook.

**St. Patrick Catholic Church**—1275 E. St., Independence, 503-838-1242. Father Francisco Bringuella. Saturday Masses: 5pm English Vigil & 7pm Spanish. Sunday Masses: 9am English & 11:30am Spanish. Daily Masses: Monday 9:30am Communion Service. 9am Tuesday and Thursday Spanish, Wednesday and

Friday English. Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30pm-4:30pm or by appointment. Faith Formation: Monday 6:45pm-8:15pm Middle & High School. Tue: 6:45pm-8:15pm. Grades 1-4. Youth Group Thur. 6:30pm. WOU Campus Ministry: Mass Sunday 5pm at 315 Knox St., Monmouth. Tuesday 7pm Fellowship.

## MONMOUTH

**Ash Creek Bible Church**—1483 N. 16th St., Monmouth, 503-838-0241. Located at corner of 16th and Hoffman Rd. Pastor/Teacher is Doug Burch. Sunday Worship 10:45am. Family AWANA. A conservative Baptist church. Our goal is to glorify God by growing together in Christ's likeness. [www.ashcreekbible.wordpress.com](http://www.ashcreekbible.wordpress.com)

**Christ's Church Methodist and Presbyterian United**—412 Clay St. W., Monmouth. 503-838-1724. Our ecumenical and inclusive Christian community welcomes you to the work and worship of Christ's Church! We worship at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays with childcare provided. Our focus is on compassionate mission to those who are struggling and seeking in our neighborhood (including the western Oregon University Campus) and in the world. We have welcoming vocal and bell choirs, bible and book studies, vacation bible school, and significant mission projects throughout the year. Please join us, no experience required.

**Christ the King Christian Church**—Meets Saturday Night at Monmouth Christian Church, 7 p.m. The Church is located at 959 Church St. W., Monmouth. Christ the King Church is a conservative, contemporary, charismatic Bible Church. At Christ the King we learn: How to apply the Bible to daily living, how to please God, and how to be a blessing to all people. Come and join us as we learn and grow together. Everyone is welcome. Wally Wildman, Senior Pastor. For more information call 503-623-2262. [www.ctkmonmouth.com](http://www.ctkmonmouth.com)

**Faith Lutheran Church**—200 Monmouth-Independence Hwy (the church with the lighted cross on the "S" curve), Monmouth, 503-838-3459. Find Christ-centered Hope, Teaching, Fellowship, Service and Music with us! Divine Service of Holy Communion and Bible Study Sunday mornings. Summer schedule begins June 18 (Adult Bible Study 8:15; Service 9:30). Winter schedule begins September 10 (Youth and Adult Bible Study 9:00; Service 10:30). Pastor Dallas C. R. Dubke. Email [faithlutheranmon@aol.com](mailto:faithlutheranmon@aol.com), Website [www.faithlutheranmonmouth.com](http://www.faithlutheranmonmouth.com).

**Praise Assembly**—189 Monmouth Ave. S. We are part of a family of churches with locations in McMinnville, Willamina, and Mitchell, Oregon. Our English worship gathering is 11am on Sundays, followed by a Spanish service at 2pm. Nursery, kid's church, and youth group are available during the Sunday services. Other ministries include: Celebrate Recovery (Tues., 7pm), college group (Wed., 7pm), and Spanish Bible study (Thurs., 7pm) as well as two group living houses near WOU. Questions? Please check our website, [www.praiseonline.net](http://www.praiseonline.net), or call us at 503-837-0300.

**St. Hilda's Episcopal Church**—245 Main St. W., Monmouth. Phone 503-838-6087. Join us on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for Eucharist or Morning Prayer. Coffee hour following service. Wednesday Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. Member of the Community of Welcoming Congregations.





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